In Sports: Top athletes of fall season announced. **Page B1**

Wabash Plain Dealer

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Pulse of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon.

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Shop Small Business Saturday downtown

Wabash Marketplace has announced details for the Small Business Saturday event on Saturday, Nov. 30. Visit businesses in downtown Wabash for specials and promotions. Hours may vary, so check with participating businesses.

BMV announces Thanksgiving holiday hours

All Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV) branches will resume regularly scheduled business hours on Saturday, Nov. 30.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Nov. 30. Dec. 6, 7, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Winter Banner Competition artwork displayed

The students' artwork will hang in the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center through Sunday, Dec. 1.

Cami Shrock concert planned for Dec. 1

Cami Shrock will be in concert at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 1 at the Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St. The public is invited to attend. There is no charge but seating is limited. A love offering will be received for the ministry of Cami Shrock. Following the concert, there will be a carry-in dinner at the REMC conference room. Meat, drinks and tableware will be furnished. For additional information, call 260-563-5346.

'It's a Wonderful Life' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be $2 per person.

Salamonie Preschool program 'B is for Bird Beak,' set for Dec. 3

Preschool-age children

See **PULSE** / Page A4

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New educator hired for Purdue Extension Wabash County

Geoff Schortgen to begin new position Sunday, Dec. 8

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

After an extensive search, the Purdue Extension Wabash County will soon have a new educator on staff.

In response to a Plain Dealer request on Tuesday, Joshua Winrotte, Howard County Purdue Extension educator for 4-H youth development, confirmed Geoff Schortgen will be the new Purdue Extension Wabash County agricultural and natural resources educator beginning Sunday, Dec. 8.

At the Monday, Nov. 11 Wabash County Board of Commissioners meeting, Winrotte delivered a progress report.

Winrotte said the open position now being filled by Schortgen was created by last month's retirement of Curt Campbell, agricultural and natural resources educator.

The other educator position remains open after Angela Christopher, 4-H youth development educator and county extension director, left her position in August to take a job as a Maconaquah Middle School teacher, according to Tammy Unger, office manager of the Purdue Extension Wabash County.

Winrotte said that the farming classes Campbell had taught in previous years would continue in January and February with some outside assistance.

A home for the holidays

PROVIDED PHOTO

HOME: Steven Lycan, top right, along with his children, front row, receive the keys to their new home from Dan Early, Wabash County Habitat for Humanity boardmember, top left. "Steven's children were each gifted a full piggy bank with coin donations from the board of directors to instill the practice of saving money," stated Erika Kambs, executive director.

Wabash County Habitat for Humanity's latest project dedicated in Roann

Staff Report

Wabash County Habitat for Humanity has welcomed a new family to its program, according to Erika Kambs, executive director.

The dedication ceremony was held on the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 17 in Roann.

"Through the hard work of volunteers and the generosity of community donors, Wabash County Habitat for Humanity completed a full renovation of a three-bedroom home for Steven Lycan and his family," stated Kambs.

Founded in 1976 by Millard Fuller in Americus, Georgia, Habitat's model is to build and sell nonprofit houses, creating a revolving loan fund to build the next house, and the next, and so on. Based on Christian principles, the mission, as it is today, is to build affordable and decent houses for neighbors in need.

"Wabash County Habitat for Humanity thanks the entire Wabash County community for its continued support through volunteers, donors, and materials; allowing the organization to continue to serve its neighbors," stated Kambs.

Salvation Army in need of local bell ringers

State organization also introduces cashless 'Kettle Pay'

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

The Wabash County Salvation Army needs volunteers to ring bells for the Christmas holiday.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Tuesday, Mary Ellen Clark, Wabash Area Ministerial Association (WAMA) representative, stated they raised around $15,000 in 2017 and $13,000 in 2018.

"What we raise Ringing the Bells, is all we have for the next year for our families," she stated.

All money raised from the bell ringing stays in Wabash County to assist families who need help with utilities that are up for disconnect, rent if up for eviction, prescriptions, hotel stay, and gasoline for out of county doctor appointments. Salvation Army is a part of the WAMA, a United Fund Agency.

"We will have bell ringers at Kroger, the two doors at Walmart in Wabash and New Market in North Manchester. Hours will vary. Also, there will be counter kettles at various places that you can donate," she stated.

To sign up, you may register online at www.registertoring.com and choose your day, time and location; or by calling 260-563-8970. A church or organization may sign up for a half or full day and then cover the time slots on their own.

Introducing 'Kettle Pay'

As America moves toward becoming a cashless society, The Salvation Army Indiana Division is making it easier for donors to give back during the Christmas season by making a gift with Apple Pay or Google Pay at the iconic Red Kettles, according to a press release.

The Salvation Army has placed smart chips and QR codes on most Red Kettle signs across Indiana, allowing shoppers to simply "bump" or scan their phones to make a digital donation.

Shoppers will be directed

See **ARMY** / Page A4

Charley Creek Gardens to host the 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll

Bring the family and enjoy a peaceful walk along the lighted path

Staff Report

Charley Creek Gardens will host its 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll, open to the public from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 to Monday, Dec. 23 at 551 N. Miami St., according to a press release.

"Bring the family and enjoy a peaceful walk along the lighted path of the gardens," stated the release.

This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available at 518 N. Wabash St. Sponsorship is provided by Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Centre.

"The Yule Time Stroll began in 2009 and has since become a well-received annual tradition," stated the release. "Many guests have taken advantage of this fun and relaxing holiday activity. The self-guided stroll is perfect for those looking to slow down during the holiday rush. Just remember to bundle up."

After taking a casual stroll through the Gardens, guests are encouraged to warm up with a cup of hot chocolate in the Charley Creek Gardens Education and Resource Center.

Charley Creek Gardens is a nonprofit horticulture center dedicated to the study, conservation and appreciation of plants, both native and foreign, through garden displays, education and research.

Charley Creek Gardens offers over 6 acres of gardens and is open from dawn to dusk 365 days a year.

For more information, visit www.CharleyCreekGardens.org or call 260-563-1020.

YMCA awarded $50K for new books

Funds awarded by nonprofit First Book

Staff Report

Wabash County students will begin receiving free, new books to take home over the next few months, according to a press release.

The Wabash County YMCA has been selected to receive an award of $50,000 for new books that will be distributed to youth through the schools and local community events. First Book, the nonprofit social enterprise focused on equal access to quality education for children in need, awarded the funds as part of its OMG Books Awards: Offering More Great Books to Spark Innovation.

The Wabash County YMCA will distribute the books to students through their teachers and local community events. Teachers at all local elementary schools will have the opportunity to order four or five books for each of their students.

Teachers at elementary schools will select books for their students from the First Book Marketplace at www.fbmarketplace.com. Indiana was among nine states in the first cycle of awards. First Book estimated the total value of the books distributed will be more than $12 million.

Eligible educators, librarians, providers, and others serving children in need can also sign up to receive resources from First Book outside of OMG Books Awards at firstbook.org/join. For more information, please visit firstbook.org.

Black Friday kicks off scramble in a shorter shopping season

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO and ALEXANDRA OLSON
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK — Black Friday enthusiasts woke up before dawn and traveled cross-state to their favorite malls in search of hot deals, kicking off a shortened shopping season that intensified the scramble between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

But the ever-growing popularity of online shopping and holiday discounts that started weeks earlier dampened the frenzy. This year, more people got a head start on gift-hunting, lured by deals from retailers trying to compensate for the shorter season.

The shopping season is the shortest since 2013 because Thanksgiving fell on the last Thursday in November – the latest possible date it could be.

Shoppers up since the wee hours slept in chairs at Nashville's Opry Mills mall, known for its outlet stores. Outside, deal-seekers were still fighting for parking spots by midmorning.

Haley Wright left Alabama at 4 a.m. to arrive at the Tennessee mall by 7 a.m. She makes the annual trip because she says the stores offer better deals and a more fun environment than the shops back home.

"I let my husband do the online shopping; I do Black Friday," she said.

The National Retail Federation, the nation's largest retail trade group, baked the shorter season into its forecast, but it says the real drivers will be the job market. It forecasts that holiday sales will rise between 3.8 percent and 4.2 percent, an increase from the disappointing 2.1 percent growth in the November and December 2018 period that came well short of the group's prediction.

NRF expects online and catalog sales, which are included in the total, to increase between 11 percent and 14 percent for the holiday period.

Last year's holiday sales were hurt by turmoil over the White House trade policy with China and a delay of nearly a month in data collection because of a government shutdown. This year's holiday forecast is above the average holiday sales growth of 3.7 percent over the previous five years.

Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst at market research firm NPD Group Inc., says he doesn't believe a shorter season will affect overall sales. But early discounts will likely diminish Black Friday's impact, he said. In terms of the busiest day of the year, it will be a toss-up between Black Friday and the last Saturday before Christmas.

"We still have the same amount of money to spend regardless of whether the season is longer or shorter," he said.

More than half of consumers started their holiday shopping early this year, and nearly a quarter of purchases have already been made, according to the annual survey released by the NRF and Prosper Insights & Analytics.

Kara Lopez and Jeremy Samora arrived at Denver's Cherry Creek Shopping Center as soon as it opened Friday to snag deals on candles and lotions at Bath & Body Works.

A half-hour later, they sat with their purchases sharing a thermos of hot chocolate, a tradition Lopez started years ago when she had to wait in line for the store to open and the first shoppers inside got gifts like stuffed animals. It's more relaxed these days, but Lopez likes it that way.

"I like the mall but not when it's full of people," she said.

Adobe Analytics predicts a loss of $1 billion in online revenue from a shortened season. Still, it expects online sales will reach $143.7 billion, up 14.1 percent from last year's holiday season.

Adobe Analytics said Thanksgiving Day set records for online shopping. Consumers spent $4.2 billion on Thanksgiving, a 14.5 percent increase from the holiday a year ago. Black Friday was on track to hit $7.4 billion.

As online sales surged, some retailers including Costco.com and H&M grappled with brief outages, according to technology company Catchpoint.

Target reported Friday that 1 million more customers used its app to shop Black Friday deals compared with last year. The discounter said customers bought big ticket items like TVs, Apple iPads and Apple Watches.

In Europe, though, Black Friday drew a backlash from activists, politicians and even consumers who criticized the U.S. shopping phenomenon as capitalism run amok. Climate demonstrators blocked a shopping mall near Paris and gathered in front of Amazon's headquarters. Workers at Amazon in Germany went on strike for better pay. Some French lawmakers called for banning Black Friday altogether.

In the U.S., attention Friday turned to malls, which are fighting for traffic as online shopping grows.

At Mall of America, the country's largest shopping mall, crowds were expected to exceed the 240,000 count on Black Friday from a year ago, said Jill Renslow, senior vice president at the Bloomington, Minnesota-based mall.

Maria Mainville, a spokesman at Taubman Centers, which operates a little over 20 malls in the U.S., says that its centers reported that customer traffic has been strong since earlier this week. That's different from last year when Black Friday and Thanksgiving drew the majority of the crowds for the period.

At some malls, some shoppers were surprised at the relatively thin crowds.

Two Bath & Body Works saleswomen wearing reindeer antler headbands shouted about promotions at a trickle of shoppers walking through Newport Centre in Jersey City, New Jersey.

"It looks empty for Black Friday," said Latoya Robinson, a student who lives in New York and planned to stop by Forever 21 and Macy's to shop for herself.

In Kansas, Kassi Adams and her husband drove 50 miles to Town East Mall in Wichita, even though the couple were nearly done with their holiday shopping. They were surprised to see how few people were there and even boasted about getting a choice parking spot.

"There is really not much of a crowd to fight," she said.

Dems ask Trump if he wants lawyers at impeachment hearings

BY ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee asked President Donald Trump on Friday to say whether he'll send his attorneys to participate in impeachment proceedings before the panel.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler also is asking Republicans on his committee which witnesses they plan to ask permission to subpoena.

The letters from the New York Democrat came as the House impeachment probe enters a new phase with a hearing next week on whether Trump's actions might constitute impeachable offenses.

Two weeks of Intelligence Committee hearings produced a mountain of testimony but didn't seem to move the needle on Capitol Hill, where not a single House Republican supported establishing the chamber's impeachment process.

Nadler instructed Trump and top panel Republican Doug Collins of Georgia to respond by the end of next week. The Judiciary Committee meets Wednesday in an informational hearing to examine the "constitutional grounds for presidential impeachment" and could move some time after that to hearings where witnesses testify about Trump's actions with Ukraine.

Trump has labelled the proceeding by House Democrats a sham, in part because he could not have his lawyers cross examine Intelligence panel witnesses during hearings and depositions.

The Intelligence panel is slated to issue a report of its findings next week that are intended to form the basis of hearings at Judiciary, which is the panel responsible for drafting any articles of impeachment for a vote by the full House.

The panel can also seek further testimony. Nadler has the ability to deny witnesses sought by Republicans, who are likely to want subpoenas compelling testimony from Hunter Biden and the anonymous intelligence community whistleblower whose complaint sparked the impeachment proceedings.

At issue in the impeachment probe is whether Trump abused his office by pressing Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to investigate the Bidens and baseless allegations that Ukraine interfered with the 2016 election.

Hunter Biden served on the board of a Ukrainian energy company when his father, then-Vice President Joe Biden, had some responsibility for the Obama administration's Ukraine policy.

Earlier scrutiny by Ukrainians uncovered no wrongdoing by the Bidens but Trump, in July, asked Zelenskiy for an investigation as a "favor," while holding up military aid to that country for several months.

THE ROXY MOVIE THEATER

Showtimes for Wednesday, November 27- Thursday, December 5
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Knives Out (PG13)
Wed (11/27): 12:50, 4:00, 6:45
Thurs: 4:00, 6:45, 9:40
Fri & Sat: 12:50, 4:00, 6:45, 9:40
Sun: 12:50, 4:00, 6:45
Mon- Thurs: 6:45

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (PG)
Wed (11/27): 1:05, 4:05, 7:15
Thurs: 4:05, 7:15, 10:00
Fri & Sat: 1:05, 4:05, 7:15, 10:00
Sun: 1:05, 4:05, 7:15
Mon- Thurs: 7:15

Frozen II in 2D (PG)
Wed (11/27): 1:20, 6:55
Thurs: 6:55, 9:30
Fri & Sat: 1:20, 6:55, 9:30
Sun: 1:20, 6:55
Mon- Thurs: 6:55

Frozen II in RealD 3D (PG)
Wed (11/27) - Sun: 3:45

Charlies Angels (PG13)
Thurs: (11/28)- Sat: 9:25

Ford V Ferrari (PG13)
Wed (11/27): 12:40, 3:55, 6:35
Thurs: 3:55, 6:35, 9:50
Fr & Sat: 12:40, 3:55, 6:35, 9:50
Sun: 12:40, 3:55, 6:35
Mon- Thurs: 6:35

Playing with Fire (PG)
Wed (11/27): 1:40, 4:25, 7:05
Thurs: 4:25, 7:05
Fri- Sun: 1:40, 4:25, 7:05
Mon-Thurs: 7:05

For more information please call
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Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru

5-Day Weather Summary

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Rain Likely	Showers Likely	Rain & Snow Possible	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
42 / 34	41 / 33	36 / 30	38 / 31	39 / 33

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 5:21 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 7:52 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
12/4	12/12	12/18	12/26

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 100% chance of rain, high temperature of 42°, humidity of 91%. East southeast wind 11 to 15 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a 100% chance of rain, overnight low of 34°. South southeast wind 8 to 15 mph.

Colleague taken aback by friend's story

Harriette Cole
Sense & Sensitivity

DEAR HARRIETTE: I was talking to a colleague, and we were bragging about our children – something that many parents do for small talk. I was saying something upbeat about my daughter when she revealed that her daughter was having a difficult childhood in part because she and her husband were going through a nasty divorce during that time. I listened and stopped talking about my life, which sounded idyllic in comparison.

What should you do when you discover that somebody you are talking to has suffered a lot more than you or your family? I wasn't competing with this woman about our children, but it ended up feeling uncomfortable since her story was so heavy. What do you do in an awkward situation like that? – Making Comparisons

DEAR MAKING COMPARISONS: In the natural course of conversation, you are bound to learn things about the people with whom you are speaking. Sometimes that information will be more intense, or emotional, or otherwise difficult than yours. That's fine.

If you are paying attention, then you should read the moment. In some instances, like the one you described, you may want to give the person space to tell her story. In other instances, if the conversation gets too heavy, you may want to change the subject, not necessarily to your family but to some neutral ground where you and the person and others who may be in earshot can get back to a more stable base.

DEAR HARRIETTE: My son has grown several inches since last winter, and he doesn't fit into any of his clothes. We are a working-class family, and we just can't afford to buy the clothes and shoes that he needs for the winter. We have tried to keep up with his growth spurts, but it's not working. It is getting cold, and I am worried about how to take care of him. I also don't want him to be embarrassed because his pants are short. It's hard enough being a teenager. When your clothes don't fit, it is awful. How can I talk to him about this so that he will be OK? – Outgrown

DEAR OUTGROWN: You can talk to your son about what is natural for growing children and teens, namely that sometimes your clothes may not fit perfectly because it can be hard to keep up with the growth spurts. That's real. But also, you don't have to give up just yet. Check to see if there is a Salvation Army or Goodwill in your town. These organizations sell gently used clothes for low prices. Chances are, you can find clothing and shoes to fit him at an affordable price. Check with local churches, too. Some of them give away clothing – including everything from coats to shoes and accessories – for free.

You and your son need have no bad feelings about wearing gently used clothing. This is one way that we can practice sustainability for our planet by recycling existing clothing. Because so many people give to these organizations, you will often find excellent choices that will make your son feel comfortable.

Harriette Cole is a lifestylist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

THURSDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
06-15-21-41-45
Estimated jackpot: $90,000
Cash4Life
19-26-48-51-53, Cash Ball: 4
Daily Three-Midday
8-7-6, SB: 1
Daily Three-Evening
6-1-0, SB: 3
Daily Four-Midday
7-1-7-4, SB: 1
Daily Four-Evening
2-9-0-3, SB: 3
Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: $243 million
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: $110 million

FRIDAY'S METALS

Aluminum	.80
Copper	2.67
Lead	.87
Zinc	1.05
Gold	1,464.61
Silver	17.01
Platinum	896.90

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices Friday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: $3.99. Soybeans: $8.61.

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'It's all history now'

Pete Jones

The early effects of the Great Depression, which in poplar parlance at least. began with the crash of the stock market in late October 1929, were slow to be felt in Wabash.

It's unlikely that many Wabash people owned significant amounts of stock in companies traded on the New York Stock Exchange then. Instead, most investors here had put their money into local companies, such as banks, factories, stores and real estate. When the crash came its consequences for people here were somewhat delayed.

But our town's economy had weakened considerably in the months before the crash. At the west edge of town, the buildings of the Service Motor Truck Company sat idle. A handful of small factories had closed, and most of those that survived were operating at reduced production. Late in the summer of 1929, the Plain Dealer noted that the only factory in Wabash running at capacity was the Wabash Cabinet Company, a firm buoyed by orders for cabinets for radios and phonographs.

Less than a week before the crash, the Wabash Chamber of Commerce announced a drive to raise funds to bring new industry to town.

"The memory of the 'good times' lingers among the citizens of Wabash, and … a campaign to restore the conditions of several years ago should be undertaken," said the Plain Dealer.

The stock market had been uneasy throughout much of September and early October, but most people here viewed that as a problem that affected only a handful of wealthy individuals and the big eastern banks.

The market, which had drifted downward through much of early fall, sustained a major shock on Thursday, Oct. 24, when prices fell precipitously. But The Plain Dealer left that story all but untouched, for there were tremendous storms raking the Great Lakes, bringing three major shipwrecks and high loss of life that same week that made big banner headlines.

"Stock Market in Turmoil as Prices Tumble" was the one-column headline over a 6-inch account of trading on what was to become "Black Thursday."

The most devastating days for the market were yet to come. After stabilizing a bit on Friday, Oct. 25, the market fell by 13 percent the following Monday on continued high volume. The next day, Tuesday, Oct. 29, the market once again was in free fall, even though prices did not drop quite as much as the previous day. That day saw the capitulation of some of the top investors on Wall Street, and for many, the good times of the golden 1920s were over. Even then, the Plain Dealer carried only another 6-inch story on the financial calamity that most thought was far removed from Wabash.

For Wabash, the full impact of the Great Crash did not come for another few months. But when it came, the financial blow was widely felt. Over the next five or six years, unemployment climbed and several businesses and factories, including the Wabash Cabinet Company, fell into receivership. By the mid-1930s, the city school system was unable to meet its payroll. At one point, the city was without a single bank and hundreds of people here went to work on various WPA and PWA relief projects.

Pete Jones writes a weekly column on local history for the Wabash Plain Dealer. He writes about people, places and events in and around Wabash County. Contact him by mail at 1160 Sunset Drive, Wabash, IN 46992 or by email at peteinwabash@comcast.net.

Shelly Rife, of Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Center, recognized for service

American Senior Communities honors employees for 'excellence and dedication'

PROVIDED PHOTO

AWARD: Shelly Rife, assistant director of nursing and clinical education coordinator at Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Center, was among the 86 employees of American Senior Communities who were honored for their outstanding service to patients and residents.

Staff Report

Shelly Rife, assistant director of nursing and clinical education coordinator at Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Center, was among the 86 employees of American Senior Communities who were honored for their outstanding service to patients and residents, according to a press release.

The employees were recognized during ASC's 19th Annual Quest for Excellence Awards Banquet, held at the Downtown Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis.

With close to 11,000 employees across the state, the Quest for Excellence Banquet celebrates a team member from each community for their dedication to their role and exemplification of ASC's core values. Honorees included clinical staff, therapists and culinary staff, as well as business office, housekeeping and maintenance team members.

The event's keynote speaker was basketball legend and Indiana resident, Quinn Buckner. Quinn Buckner is one of only three men in history to win a championship on every level of basketball. He was: captain of his 1971 and 1972 high school basketball championship teams; captain of the Indiana University 1976 undefeated NCAA Championship (voted greatest team in NCAA history); captain of the Olympic Gold Medalist basketball team of 1976; and NBA champion with the Boston Celtics.

Quinn's long list of other accomplishments also includes being a coach and a revered major network sports broadcaster. Quinn recently joined the ASC team as spokesperson and taking an active role in leadership training.

ASC also recognized Swiss Villa as Healthcare Community of the Year and Allisonville Meadows Assisted Living as the Senior Living Community of the Year for 2019.

ASC provides a variety of services, including Moving Forward Rehabilitation, Auguste's Cottage Memory Care, Skilled Nursing Care, Long Term Care, Respite and Hospice Care, and living centers, including Garden Homes and Independent Living Apartments. For more information visit ASCCare.com.

Powerful storm disrupts nation's busiest travel weekend

BY CLAIRE GALOFARO
Associated Press

A powerful storm making its way east from California is causing major disruptions during the year's busiest travel weekend, as forecasters warned that intensifying snow and ice could thwart millions of people across the country hoping to get home after Thanksgiving.

The storm caused the death of at least one person in South Dakota and shut down highways in the western U.S., stranding drivers in California and prompting authorities in Arizona to plead with travelers to wait out the weather before attempting to travel.

The National Weather Service said travel could become impossible in some places.

The weather service issued storm warnings Friday for a swath of the country stretching from Montana to Nebraska to Wisconsin, with heavy snow anticipated in parts of Utah, Colorado, Montana and Wyoming.

Strong winds gusting to 90 mph were possible in mountains and foothills, and could reach 65 mph in the Plains, creating poor visibility.

One hopeful traveler asked the weather service Friday on Twitter whether it would be advisable to drive to Duluth, Minnesota, over the weekend. The agency warned: "If you are in Duluth by tonight, you will likely be stuck there until at least Sunday afternoon due to heavy snow and blizzard conditions."

Northern Michigan University reopened its residence halls, two days earlier than normal for a Thanksgiving weekend, to give students more options as forecasters predicted a foot or more of snow.

"We want to make people aware of what they could be driving into," campus police Chief Mike Bath said.

The airline industry group estimated a record 31.6 million people will travel over a 12-day holiday period. Airlines on Friday said they were so far operating as usual as they monitored the weather.

BRIEFLY

Ex-Indiana mayor getting new trial in 1 of 2 federal counts

HAMMOND (AP) — A federal judge has denied a motion for acquittal by a former northwestern Indiana mayor who was convicted by a jury in February of bribery and tax obstruction but he granted a new trial on one of the counts.

The ruling is a partial victory for former Portage Mayor James Snyder, who argued that he should be acquitted because of prosecutorial conduct and insufficient evidence. Snyder didn't get the acquittals but the (Northwest Indiana) Post-Tribune reports that U.S. District Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen granted him a new trial on the charge that he accepted a $13,000 bribe in exchange for contracts to sell garbage trucks to the city.

The judge let stand the conviction on the charge that he hid income and assets from the Internal Revenue Service.

Northwest Indiana town bans public vaping along with smoking

MUNSTER (AP) — A northwestern Indiana town has banned all tobacco and vaping products from public spaces and facilities in what a backer hails as one of the most comprehensive in the state.

The Munster council this month approved then ordinance that bans the smoking of all tobacco products including electronic cigarettes within 15 feet of a public space or entrance to a public facility in Munster. The (Northwest Indiana) Times reports a first-time offense will be written up, a second violation will result in a $200 fine and ensuing violations carry fines that escalate to $1,500 for five within a calendar year.

Irene Boone Phillips of the Lake County Tobacco Prevention Coalition says it's "one of the most comprehensive local smoke-free air ordinances that has passed in the state in Indiana."

Indianapolis police chief to retire at the end of the year

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Chief Bryan Roach of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department will retire at the end of the year after nearly three years as the city's top officer.

Roach said Friday that his decision to retire after nearly 29 years with the department was "bittersweet." He said he's accepted a job outside of the police department and city government.

Roach was appointed chief of the 1,700-officer police department in January 2017 by Mayor Joe Hogsett.

Hogsett says in a statement that during Roach's tenure the department returned to citywide beat policing and created a crisis team focused on treating, rather than jailing, people suffering from mental health issues.

Hogsett thanked Roach "for his steadfast service to the people of Indianapolis."

There was no immediate word on who Roach's successor would be.

Patients sue Indiana hospital over possible disease exposure

GOSHEN (AP) — More than 1,000 surgical patients are suing a northern Indiana hospital after being notified that a sterilization failure could have exposed them to deadly infections.

The Elkhart Truth reports the class-action suit was filed last week in Elkhart County Court against Goshen Hospital on behalf of patient Linda Gierek and others who had surgery between April and September. It alleges the patients were potentially exposed to hepatitis C, hepatitis B and HIV.

The hospital recently notified patients who had surgery in that period that a sterilization technician failed to complete one crucial step in the process of some surgical equipment, possibly affecting 1,182 patients.

Gierek says in the suit that the potential exposure triggered ongoing emotional distress and trauma.

A message seeking comment Friday was not immediately returned by hospital officials.

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PENDING SERVICES

Barbara Ann Baer: 91, formerly of Wabash, Indiana died at 11:45 pm Thursday, Nov. 28, 2019 at Heritage Pointe Healthcare Center in Warren, Indiana. Services are pending at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

After wind scare, balloons fly in Macy's Thanksgiving parade

BY SABRINA CASERTA
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The beloved balloons flew, but lower than usual, in a windy Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade after an anxious weather watch.

Wind had threatened to ground the giant inflated characters. But officials announced less than an hour before Thursday's start time that the balloons could fly, if in a down-to-Earth way.

As the parade continued – even while city emergency officials sent out a public alert about wind gusts – handlers struggled with some balloons and pulled them close to the ground. Meanwhile, winds did keep giant balloons out of Philadelphia's Thanksgiving Day parade.

The Macy's parade balloons might have been lowered, but Susan Koteen's spirits weren't. She has traveled from Florida, three years in a row, to see the parade.

"We love it. Because it's exciting, it's patriotic, and it just – it warms your heart," she said.

Spectators lined up a half-dozen deep along the route on a gusty fall day, with leaves and confetti swirling in the wind.

A "Green Eggs and Ham" balloon joined the lineup, Smokey Bear returned for the first time since 1993, and spectators got to see new versions of favorites Snoopy and SpongeBob SquarePants.

Another new balloon, Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama's "Love Flies Up to the Sky," didn't fly. Inquiries were sent to Macy's representatives asking why.

During the middle of the parade, the wind was 13 mph with gusts up to 32 mph, according to the National Weather Service.

City rules require balloons to be grounded if sustained winds exceed 23 mph and gusts exceed 34 mph. The balloons have been grounded only once for weather-related reasons, in 1971.

On Thursday, in a windy spot near the start of the 2.5-mile route, a Nutcracker balloon knocked into a handler, who fell down but then continued along. A Grinch balloon touched some trees as it passed a corner, drawing an "ooh!" from the crowd.

To parade-goer Kate O'Connor, the wind was "scary, especially around the corners – they're like wind tunnels."

It was still cool to see the balloons up close, "but they're really meant to be seen from underneath," said the resident of Newtown, Connecticut, who comes to the parade every other year with her daughter, Megan, 8.

Joanna Mammen and her family came from Bradford County in northern Pennsylvania to revisit the parade she attended every year while growing up in the Bronx.

"My favorite float, as a kid, was Santa Claus," said Mammen, 69. "Most of the other floats from that time, the kids these days wouldn't even recognize. But it's a beautiful tradition, to come out and experience the crowd."

It was a first-time experience for her husband, Bill. And for him, it was all about sharing the fun with the couple's son, Jason, and 2-year-old grandson, Lincoln.

"Thanksgiving is not just about the people I love. It is the people I love," he said.

Willie Brown traveled from Dallas to see the parade, particularly entertainers Ciara and Kelly Rowland.

"This was really a bucket list item for me, Macy's Day Parade in New York City," the 23-year-old said. "You grow up seeing glimpses on TV, but it's something I knew I needed to experience."

The parade, one of the city's most popular events, features about 8,000 marchers, two dozen floats, entertainers and marching bands, ending with an appearance from Santa Claus.

The character balloons can go as high as 55 feet off the ground and as low as 10 feet.

The rules requiring them to be grounded in high winds came after a "Cat in the Hat" balloon blew into a lamppost near Central Park in 1997, critically injuring a woman.

In 2005, an M&M's balloon smacked into a lamppost in Times Square, causing cuts and bruises to a woman in a wheelchair and her 11-year-old sister.

In 2017, a gust on an otherwise calm day sent a smaller balloon into a tree branch. That one popped and fell harmlessly onto the crowd.

ARMY

Continued from A1

to a custom donation page that accepts Apple or Google payment options. The funds will then be distributed to local Salvation Army units based on the donor's billing ZIP code, and an email receipt will be sent directly to their phone.

This new technology is being rolled out across the United States, so Hoosiers traveling over the holidays will still be able to donate to their hometown Salvation Army at any Red Kettle with a Kettle Pay sign.

Now in its 129th year, The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign is one of the oldest and largest charitable campaigns in the world. Every year, the campaign raises millions of dollars to provide toys for kids at Christmas, clothes and shelter for the homeless, food for the hungry, after-school programs for kids, and other services to America's most vulnerable populations year-round.

Donations are accepted at any of the more than 25,000 traditional Red Kettles found in stores and partners across the country, online at SalvationArmyIndiana.org, or on your phone by texting KETTLE to 91999. To learn more visit SalvationArmyIndiana.org.

Schools teach refugee, migrant kids skills to succeed in U.S.

BY ANITA SNOW
Associated Press

PHOENIX — International flags flutter from the ceilings of the outdoor hallways at Valencia Newcomer School, where more than 200 children from around the world are learning English skills and American classroom customs they need to succeed.

When the school year begins, the refugee and immigrant children often don't know the rules. A kid might be fascinated with a light switch they excitedly turn off and on. Another is startled by a whistle or a helicopter buzzing overhead that recalls conflict back home.

But fears melt away as the kids adjust, said Valencia Principal Lynette Faulkner, who calls the school their "safe place." Soon, they stand in line, raise their hand, keep their feet on floor. As they learn English, students make friends across cultures.

Since fall 2018, the public school has welcomed students from countries including Myanmar, Eritrea, Indonesia, Afghanistan and Cuba for an extra year of attention before transferring to mainstream schools. This year's kindergarten through eighth-grade students come from 21 countries and speak 15 languages.

Valencia is among a handful of U.S. public schools dedicated to helping some of the thousands of children who arrive in the country each year, even as the Trump administration has proposed pushing down the annual cap for refugees to a historic low of 18,000. No refugees were settled in the U.S. last month.

The schools aren't necessarily in cities with more refugees, but where local education officials took the initiative to create them. Similar schools are in Indianapolis; Houston; Fort Worth, Texas; Greensboro, North Carolina; and Providence, Rhode Island.

Arizona ranks eighth among states for refugee resettlement. The number plunged from 4,110 people in fiscal year 2016 to 998 in 2018, then rose slightly to 1,216 for the 12-month period that ended Sept. 30. About half are kids.

Gov. Doug Ducey hasn't weighed in yet on President Donald Trump's executive order allowing states and cities to reject refugees. At least five states have signaled they will accept refugees, and no governor has said they plan to keep them out. Several agencies sued last week seeking to halt the order.

"There may be less, but they're still coming," Valencia teacher Kristine Jones said. "And we have to be there for them, whether it's academically or getting them services like immunizations."

It's unclear if the lower cap on refugees will affect already limited funding for school districts from the Office of Refugee Resettlement's Refugee School Impact Program.

The Arizona Department of Economic Security last year distributed about $635,000 to help 1,026 school-age refugees statewide with things like interpretation, tutoring and school supplies.

Immigrants and other children newly arrived from abroad can attend newcomer schools if they need help with basic English, including those born in the U.S., taken out of the country and returned.

"As long as you have kids struggling with English, there will always be a place for these kinds of programs," said Deborah Short, a Washington-based English learning specialist who has written about newcomer education. She noted some mainstream schools have newcomer classrooms.

Rebecca Kawa, 10, didn't learn English at the refugee camp in Uganda where she was born and spent most of her life, studying in a classroom with up to 200 students. But she needed no interpreter after only two months at Valencia.

"I like this school because they teach you English, and you learn it fast," said the daughter of Congolese refugees.

There are often huge challenges for children who trudged across several countries, lived in camps or witnessed extreme violence.

Refugee and other immigrant children who lose a home or parent can suffer from toxic stress, a term used by child development experts for the body's response to long-term adversity, said Sarah Smith, senior director of education for the nonprofit International Rescue Committee.

"Infants might cry for long periods of time," Smith said. "Children in school might have a hard time concentrating."

Newcomer school teachers and social workers strive to ensure children get the social and emotional time they need to talk through feelings and make new friends. Valencia social worker Michelle Frias said that over the last year, she's referred about 10 kids to psychologists for extra care.

At Valencia, the day starts with teachers greeting students as they step off the buses. Samuel Lavi, a teaching assistant from Congo who speaks seven languages, is the first to give each kid a hug or high-five.

PULSE

Continued from A1

and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "B is for Bird Beak" from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is $2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling 260-468-2127.

University Bands Concert set for Dec. 4

The University Bands Concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4 in the Assembly Room at Timbercrest Senior Living Community, 2201 East St., North Manchester. Tickets are $5 general admission; free for MU students, faculty and staff.

Woman's Clubhouse plans evening Christmas dinner

Don't forget the Christmas evening dinner Thursday, Dec. 5. It is the annual holiday fundraiser with a very special dinner and entertainment. The house will be decorated in an angel theme this year. Contact Carol McDonald by phone at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613 for more information.

Manchester professor talks about how she is living her 'Wild and Precious Life'

Professor Heather Schilling, chair and director of teacher education at Manchester University, will speak about staying true to the University Mission Statement in "Living this one 'Wild and Precious Life'" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 in Cordier Auditorium.

Museum to host Family Fun Night

The Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will host a Family Fun Night on Friday, Dec. 6, featuring a visit from Santa Claus.

Lessons and Carols service set for Dec. 6

The Lessons and Carols worship service will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. This service blends lessons of the season with traditional Christmas carols and hymns, featuring Manchester University Chamber Singers and Cantabile.

Honeywell House to host holiday floral arranging

Jennifer Love-George of Love Bug Floral will instruct guests on creating a seasonal arrangement at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 7 at 720 N. Wabash St. The cost is $25 per person, which covers all materials. Seating is limited, but reservations are encouraged and can be made at www.Honeywell-House.org or by calling the Box Office at 260-563-1102.

Holiday Pops! concert set for Dec. 8

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra Holiday Pops! concert will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8 in Cordier Auditorium. Tickets are $15 general admission; free for MU students, faculty and staff, as well as all students age 18 and younger.

'The Polar Express' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"The Polar Express" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be $2 per person.

Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet planned

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St., will be hosting Christmas at the Museum Annual Banquet.

Charley Creek Gardens to host 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll

Charley Creek Gardens will host its 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll, open to the public from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 to Monday, Dec. 23 at 551 N. Miami St. This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available at 518 N. Wabash St.

LaFontaine Lions to host Santa Breakfast

The LaFontaine Lions will host a Santa Breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at the LaFontaine Community Building. The menu will include scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, sausage gravy, biscuit, juice, milk and coffee. Santa arrives at 9 a.m. There will be a free-will donation. Proceeds will go towards the LaFontaine United Methodist Church food pantry. Please bring in non-perishable foods. Donations of old glasses and keys will also be accepted.

Celebrate 'The Wonders of Winter' on Dec. 18

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "The Wonders of Winter" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is $2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or face book.com/upperwabash.

'White Christmas' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"White Christmas" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be $2 per person.

DivorceCare presents 'Surviving the Holidays' series

The DivorceCare support group, which meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 112 in the Wabash Friends Church, 3563 South State Road 13, will be offering a DVD series "Surviving the Holidays" through Tuesday, Dec. 17. Group leader and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658 or group leader Janet Quillen at 260-571-5235; email office@wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Breakfast with Santa planned

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Santa will be coming to Breakfast with Santa and will have a special treat for children at the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer .com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://coats.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
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letters guidelines

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17

Elizabeth Warren's housing proposal will make shortages worse

Whenever you see a persistent shortage of something, you always should ask, "What is government doing to cause this shortage or make it worse?"

Sen. Elizabeth Warren, in contrast, shows her poor instincts with her reaction to the housing shortage. How, she asks, can I get the government even more involved?

Warren, arguably the Democratic front-runner, laid out her plan at the November debate to address a government-caused problem with even more government.

"Our housing problem in America is a problem on the supply side," Warren said, in a promising beginning, "and that means that the federal government stopped building new housing a long time ago."

Apparently, Warren thinks the core problem here is that we don't have enough federally owned and federally built homes. This is far from the truth, and the less ideological Democrats understand that.

Presidential candidate Tom Steyer is from California, so he knows the problem. He said as much on stage right before Warren spoke. "What we've seen in California is, as a result of policy," he said. "We have millions too few housing units." Specifically, Steyer made it clear that the problem is "the localities and municipalities who have worked very hard to make sure that there are no new housing units built in their towns."

Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, who is also running for president, has proposed federal tax incentives for localities that liberalize zoning laws.

We're not sure there's a federal role in fixing this problem caused by local government, but we're glad Steyer and Klobuchar see that government restrictions on development are at the heart of the problem.

California, for instance, has plenty of zoning laws that prohibit multifamily homes, such as duplexes. It's not only zoning. A massive amount of red tape prevents homebuilding in places across the country. Environmental regulations hurt, but Warren would increase them. Labor regulations hurt, but Warren would increase them. All sorts of federal, state, and local regulations add immensely to the overhead of building homes, which reduces the stock of housing, particularly the stock of affordable housing. Regulatory costs have increased by almost one third this decade.

Of course, there is plenty of work for governments to do to help make housing more affordable. Local governments need to plan new neighborhoods in better ways. Cities and towns need to build better infrastructure. But mostly, what governments should do, if they want more affordable housing, is stop getting in the way.

We've seen the regulate-then-subsidize cycle before from Democrats. That's half of what Obamacare is. Considering that Warren is running on abolishing Obamacare, that ought to be warning enough.

This editorial was first published in the Washington Examiner.

Who are you, and what have you done with Elizabeth Warren?

BY ERIC SCHANSBERG

When one of my sons does something unexpected, I like to joke: "Who are you and what have you done with my son?" After reading Elizabeth Warren's three books on politics, I have the same question about her.

The first, "The Two-Income Trap" in 2003, is moderate or even conservative. Some of her arguments on public policy consequences are so well-reasoned that it brings a tear to an economist's eye. But really, the book is what you'd expect from an academic – thorough work, thoughtful analysis and careful conclusions.

Warren's thesis is that when financial troubles come, life often falls apart – even for two-income families who "play by the rules." Higher household incomes could have meant more savings and less risk. But household spending increased as well. With both parents working, a family has less flexibility – thus, "the two-income trap."

Warren notes that most of the increased spending came from housing. And she rightly saw a connection between housing prices, K-12 school quality and neighborhood safety. This led her to advocate greatly expanded school choice – vouchers, charters, and so on – to break the link between housing and schools.

The policy prescriptions in the book are mild, compared with her later books and her proposals today. This stemmed from her understanding of how subsidies distort markets and inflate prices: "America simply cannot afford mass subsidies for its middle class to buy housing. Besides, direct subsidies are likely to add more ammunition to the already ruinous bidding wars, ultimately driving home prices even higher."

She made similar arguments to criticize subsidies for day care. But her analysis and prescriptions were not always impressive. She complains about inflation in higher education without noting the impact of its massive subsidies. And her level of trust toward consumers, particularly the poor and certain minority groups, is not high.

Unfortunately, the impressive things about Warren went out the proverbial window when she became a politician. It's easy to see when you compare her first book to her other two political books: "A Fighting Chance" in 2014 and "This Fight Is our Fight" in 2017. Both move toward rhetoric, biography, and boilerplate – and away from careful analysis.

New policy preferences emerge which look like a crass grab for political power. And beyond grand plans that can't possibly be financed through wealth and income taxes, Warren's avid embrace of wide-ranging and extensive subsidies – for college, student loan forgiveness, child care and health care – makes no sense and has no apparent cause.

So, here's the most amazing story in Warren's books: Her research on bankruptcy leads to political influence. She gets the opportunity to meet with First Lady Hillary Clinton and argue against a bill penned by industry lobbyists. Congress and President Bill Clinton support the law. But Elizabeth persuades Hillary, who persuades Bill to veto the bill.

But here's the kicker: The bill is reintroduced in Congress the next Spring. "This time, freshman Senator Hillary Clinton voted in favor of the bill ... the bill was essentially the same but Hillary Rodham Clinton was not. Her husband was a lame duck at the time he vetoed the bill; he could afford to forgo future campaign contributions. As New York's newest senator, however, it seems that Hillary Clinton could not afford such a principled position." Ouch!

Eleven years later, Warren tells the story again in a "Fighting Chance." This time, she shares Hillary's role in persuading Bill to veto the bill but does not mention Hillary's later affirmative vote in 2001. Of course, Warren's redacted retelling is a smart political move but it is also indicative of her emergence as a political animal in her own right.

Her flips on public policy are staggering enough – from one who knew better and opposed to someone who pretended not to know better and supported. The hypocrisy is even worse because she crushed Hillary for the exact same move, and with Warren's own sins in this regard being far worse.

So, what happened to Elizabeth? I heard Rod Dreher speak at the 2019 Touchstone Conference on "The Benedict Option." Dreher had been a devoted Catholic but "lost his faith" as he investigated the Catholic sexual abuse scandal for the New York Times. He started to obsess on the important work he was doing. He began to imagine that he was indispensable. He didn't take steps to ground his work in something greater. In Christian terms, "the good fight" became an idol – and idols always fail.

When Dreher used the term "fight" to describe his crusade, it immediately brought Warren's last two books to mind – with "fight" in both titles and "fighting" as her most prominent metaphor to paint her own efforts. My best guess – and I think, the most gracious interpretation of her hypocritical flips – is that she has traveled a similar path to Dreher.

It can be hoped that Warren will not get to enforce her preferred version of society and her hypocrisies on others. And as Dreher eventually learned, it can be hoped that Warren will find that there are things much more important than "the fight." When the ends justify the means, it's never ultimately good for those who misunderstand – or those they try to influence and control.

Eric Schansberg is Professor of Economics at Indiana University Southeast, adjunct scholar for the Indiana Policy Review Foundation and author of "Turn Neither to the Right not Left: A Thinking Christian's Guide to Politics and Public Policy."

Systemic Indiana education reform: 'It's time to use our outside voices'

BY CRAIG LADWIG

Some years ago two officers of this foundation sat down with a powerful GOP committee chairman. We were there to discuss a year-long study that explained why teachers were concerned about Indiana education and how the Statehouse could make teachers' lives better and their classrooms more effective places to learn.

It bore the title, "Education Without the Romance," signaling that it was based on the work of Nobel Laureate James Buchanan and his school of Public Choice economics. It was thick. It was bold and promising. Largely unread by the legislative leadership, it still is.

The committee chairman read the executive summary over coffee and then pushed it back across the table. "I couldn't get this out of committee," he said. So much for GOP legislative leadership.

Several years later, on two occasions, the foundation gathered leading Republican legislators in luncheon seminars at the Statehouse to hear our adjunct Lisa Snell explain a related plan to systemically reform Indiana education.

Snell considered Indiana particularly well suited for the plan because of its relatively balanced district funding. The reform was called the Weighted Student Formula back then. Now it is known as the Student Based Budgeting and it is drawing the praise of teachers, parents and administrators throughout the country.

Again, nobody was willing to put an Indiana Republican name on any measure that would set the necessary reforms in motion. The foundation even distributed sample legislation to get them started. And whenever GOP political aspirants came around to discuss the issues, we always asked them if they would sponsor the reform measures. Nothing.

Yesterday, a crowd of utterly fed-up teachers, 16,000 of them, filled the Statehouse grounds and overflowed into the surrounding streets. Gov. Eric Holcomb, always politically astute, was in Florida for a Republican Governors Association conference. House Speaker Brian Bosma chose the day to announce he would not seek reelection.

Good enough, the teachers will be back; don't bet on the governor. For it will soon be clear to him and the remaining career politicians that yesterday the options to reforming Indiana public education gravely narrowed. Nobody – teachers, legislators or parents – is going to be happy with the "solutions" to be introduced in coming months in the name of "Red for Ed." They will be politically generated, timid in scope, superficial and compromised into ineffectiveness. Look for a slight percentage increase in the money thrown into the administrative maw.

If all this means that Republicans' hopes of holding on to legislative power are to be buried, so be it. The tombstone can read: "We Couldn't Get It Out of Committee."

Craig Ladwig is editor of the quarterly Indiana Policy Review.

HISTORY

Today is Saturday, Nov. 30, the 334th day of 2019. There are 31 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 30, 1782, the United States and Britain signed preliminary peace articles in Paris for ending the Revolutionary War; the Treaty of Paris was signed in Sept. 1783.

On this date:

In 1835, Samuel Langhorne Clemens – better known as Mark Twain – was born in Florida, Missouri.

In 1874, British statesman Sir Winston Churchill was born at Blenheim Palace.

In 1900, Irish writer Oscar Wilde died in Paris at age 46.

In 1936, London's famed Crystal Palace, constructed for the Great Exhibition of 1851, was destroyed in a fire.

In 1960, the last DeSoto was built by Chrysler, which had decided to retire the brand after 32 years.

In 1965, "Unsafe at Any Speed" by Ralph Nader, a book highly critical of the U.S. auto industry, was first released in hardcover by Grossman Publishers.

In 1981, the United States and the Soviet Union opened negotiations in Geneva aimed at reducing nuclear weapons in Europe.

Evacuation order lifted as huge Texas plant fire 'contained'

BY PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Officials lifted evacuation orders Friday for around 50,000 people on the Texas Gulf Coast, determining a massive fire was finally under control at a chemical plant rocked by two major explosions two days earlier.

"We are in a position to say it's contained. We feel comfortable with the efforts that have been made by our firefighters," Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick said at a news conference in Port Neches, about 80 miles east of Houston.

But the area around the TPC Group plant remained dangerous. Several isolated fires were still blazing and visible at the facility, which makes chemical and petroleum-based products. Officials said they could not predict when those would be fully extinguished.

The explosions began early Wednesday morning and were so big that nearby homes captured the bright balls of fire on front-porch security cameras. The blasts shattered windows and ripped doors off hinges. Three workers were injured, and when a second blast erupted 13 hours after the initial overnight explosion, evacuation orders covered a 4-mile radius around the plant took effect.

Debris thrown across Port Neches – and potentially neighboring towns – by the sheer magnitude of Wednesday's explosions also posed risks to families returning home. Branick, the top county official, cautioned that construction on the plant began in the 1940s and that asbestos could have been hurled into people's yards. He urged homeowners to steer clear of any "white, chalky substance" and call health officials if any are found.

Branick said it may be several months before the cause of the explosions is known. He said the air quality posed no threat to residents.

"There's still going to be smoke in the air. There's still going to be flames visible at night," said Troy Monk, the director of health safety and security for the TPC Group. "I would love to tell you we're going to be done by the end of the day. I would not be telling you the truth if I made that statement. It's very difficult for us to quantify in days how long this is going to take."

The explosion was the latest in a series of high-profile accidents this year up and down the Texas Gulf Coast, which is home to the highest concentration of oil refineries in the nation. In July, an explosion at an ExxonMobil refinery in Baytown left more than dozen people with minor injuries and put nearby residents under a shelter-in-place for three hours.

Toby Baker, the head of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, called it an "unacceptable trend of significant incidents" this week and said the petroleum industry must be accountable.

But environmental groups for years have accused Baker's agency of being a toothless watchdog that provides inadequate oversight and slaps highly profitable corporations with only meager penalties. The TPC Group plant had been labeled a "high priority" violator by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency following its last inspection in 2017 and had been cited multiple times in recent years for clean air violations.

Environmentalists were also quick to point out that the TPC Group explosion occurred just a week after the Trump administration scaled back chemical safety plant measures that had been prompted by a 2013 explosion at a Texas fertilizer storage facility that killed 15 people. The rollback included eliminating a required public access to information about dangerous chemicals companies keep on site.

Officials have said the first blast occurred around 1 a.m. Wednesday in an area of the plant that makes butadiene, a chemical used to make synthetic rubber and other products. It sent a large plume of smoke stretching for miles and started a fire. The second blast ripped through the plant about 2 p.m., sending a steel reactor tower rocketing high into the air.

The plant has 175 full-time employees and 50 contract workers.

U.S. stocks close out half-day session with broad losses

BY ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

Stocks fell broadly on Wall Street Friday following a shortened trading session a day after the Thanksgiving holiday that left the market slightly below its record highs.

Technology, health care and industrial stocks accounted for a big slice of the selling. Several big retailers also dragged the market lower as traders watched for signs that Black Friday got off to a strong start. Energy stocks took the heaviest losses as crude oil prices fell sharply. Bond yields rose.

Even with the pullback, the S&P 500 notched its seventh weekly gain in eight weeks. The benchmark index also closed out November with its strongest monthly gain since June.

"You had three solid days, plus the S&P was at an all-time high as of the close on Wednesday," said Tom Martin, senior portfolio manager with Globalt Investments. "Really, from early October until now, it's been almost like a ruler straight up."

The S&P 500 index dropped 12.65 points, or 0.4 percent, to 3,140.98. The index hit all-time highs the first three days of the week.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 112.59 points, or 0.4 percent, to 28,051.41. The Nasdaq slid 39.70 points, or 0.5 percent, to 8,665.47. The Russell 2000 index of smaller company stocks gave up 9.60 points, or 0.6 percent, or 1,624.50. Trading volume was lighter than usual with the markets open for only a half day.

Bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 1.77 percent from 1.76 percent late Wednesday.

The three major stock indexes have notched multiple record highs in recent weeks. That helped drive their gains in November. The S&P 500 ended the month with a 3.4 percent gain, while the Dow rose 3.7 percent. The Nasdaq, which is weighted heavily with technology stocks, gained 4.5 percent.

The stock market has been grinding mostly higher after shaking off recession fears that helped knock stocks into a skid this summer.

Better-than-expected corporate earnings, solid economic data and interest-rate cuts by the Federal Reserve helped fuel the market's fall rally. Investors have also grown more optimistic about the prospects for a trade deal between the U.S. and China.

New U.S. tariffs are set to kick in on many Chinese-made products as of Dec. 15, but negotiators have said they might soon have a preliminary deal that could avert that.

Chipmakers were among the biggest decliners in the technology sector Friday. Lam Research and Qualcomm each fell 1.5 percent.

Drugmakers helped pull the health stocks lower. Bristol-Myers Squibb dropped 1.1 percent.

Energy stocks were the biggest losers as the price of U.S. crude oil slid 5.1 percent. Devon Energy dropped 2.8 percent and Helmerich & Payne fell 2.3 percent.

Benchmark crude oil fell $2.94 to settle at $55.17 a barrel. Brent crude oil, the international standard, dropped $1.44 to close at $62.43 a barrel.

Shares in several big retailers declined as Black Friday, traditionally the kickoff for the holiday shopping season, got underway. Macy's fell 1 percent, Gap dropped 1.8 percent, Kohl's slid 2.7 percent and Nordstrom slipped 0.4 percent.

Some bucked the downward trend. J.C. Penney rose 1.8 percent, Walmart added 0.3 percent and TJX, parent of T.J. Maxx, Marshalls and other stores, gained 0.3 percent.

This year retailers have less time to woo consumers because Thanksgiving fell on the fourth Thursday in November, making the holiday shopping season six days shorter.

The National Retail Federation baked the shorter season into its forecast, which calls for holiday sales to rise between 3.8 percent and 4.2 percent, an increase from the disappointing 2.1 percent growth seen in the November and December 2018 period.

"Black Friday really starts on Nov. 1 and goes all the way until the end of December, so you have this two-month period that you really have to look at before you really see how well companies are doing," Martin said.

Traders bid up shares in Tech Data after Apollo Global Management raised its offer to buy the technology company to $145 per share in cash from $130. The stock surged 12.3 percent.

U.S. Steel fell 5.8 percent following reports that a water pipe burst at the company's steel mill in Gary, Indiana.

In other commodities trading, wholesale gasoline fell 8 cents to $1.60 per gallon. Heating oil declined 7 cents to $1.88 per gallon. Natural gas dropped 22 cents to $2.28 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Gold rose $11.90 to $1,472.70 per ounce, silver gained 5 cents to $17.11 per ounce and copper fell 3 cents to $2.66 per pound.

The dollar fell to 109.48 Japanese yen from 109.53 yen on Thursday. The euro strengthened to $1.1017 from $1.1009.

Major stock indexes in Europe ended broadly lower.

Trump thanks troops in Afghanistan, says Taliban want a deal

BY JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — President Donald Trump paid a surprise Thanksgiving visit to Afghanistan, where he announced the U.S. and the Taliban have been engaged in ongoing peace talks and said he believes the Taliban want a cease-fire.

Trump arrived at Bagram Air Field shortly after 8:30 p.m. local time Thursday and spent 3½ hours on the ground during his first trip to the site of America's longest war. He served turkey and thanked the troops, delivered a speech and sat down with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani before leaving just after midnight. He arrived back in Florida, where he is spending the holiday weekend, early Friday morning local time.

As per tradition, reporters were under strict instructions to keep the trip a secret to ensure the president's safety in Afghanistan. About 12,000 U.S. forces remain in the country.

Traveling with Republican Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming and a small clutch of aides, including his acting chief of staff, press secretary and national security adviser, Trump appeared in good spirits as he was escorted around the base by heavily armed soldiers, as the smell of burning fuel and garbage wafted through the chilly air. Unlike last year's post-Christmas visit to Iraq – his first to an active combat zone – first lady Melania Trump did not make the trip.

Trump's first stop was a dining hall, where the crowd erupted into cheers when he arrived. There, he served turkey to soldiers dressed in fatigues and sat down for a meal. But he said he only tasted the mashed potatoes before he was pulled away for photos.

"I never got the turkey," he told the troops. "A gorgeous piece of turkey."

During his visit, Trump announced that the U.S. and Taliban have been engaged in peace talks and insisted the Taliban want to make a deal after heavy U.S. fire in recent months.

"We're meeting with them," he said. "And we're saying it has to be a cease-fire. And they don't want to do a cease-fire, but now they do want to do a cease-fire, I believe ... and we'll see what happens."

The trip came after Trump abruptly broke off peace talks with the Taliban in September, canceling a secret meeting with Taliban and Afghan leaders at the Camp David presidential retreat after a particularly deadly spate of violence, capped by a bombing in Kabul that killed 12 people, including an American soldier.

That ended a nearly year-long effort by the U.S. to reach a political settlement with the Taliban, the group that protected al-Qaida extremists in Afghanistan, prompting U.S. military action after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. U.S. and international forces have been on the ground ever since.

It was not immediately clear how long or substantive the U.S. reengagement with the Taliban has been.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said the Taliban's stance is unchanged. He said the United States broke off talks and when it wants to resume the Taliban are ready.

Trump ran his 2016 campaign promising to end the nation's "endless wars" and has been pushing to withdraw troops from Afghanistan and in the Middle East despite protests from top U.S. officials, Trump's Republican allies in Washington and many U.S. allies abroad. For months now, he has described American forces as "policemen" and argued that other countries' wars should be theirs to wage.

Tens of thousands of Afghan civilians and more than 2,400 American service members have been killed since the war began 18 years ago.

Just last week, Trump flew to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware to oversee the transfer of the remains of two Army officers killed when their helicopter crashed as they provided security for troops on the ground in Logar province in eastern Afghanistan. The Taliban still control or hold sway over about half of the country, staging near daily attacks targeting Afghan forces and government officials.

The U.S. and the Taliban in September had been close to an agreement that might have enabled a U.S. troop withdrawal.

Nonetheless, Trump said Thursday that he was proceeding with a plan to reduce U.S. troop levels to about 8,600, telling reporters we're "bringing down the number of troops substantially."

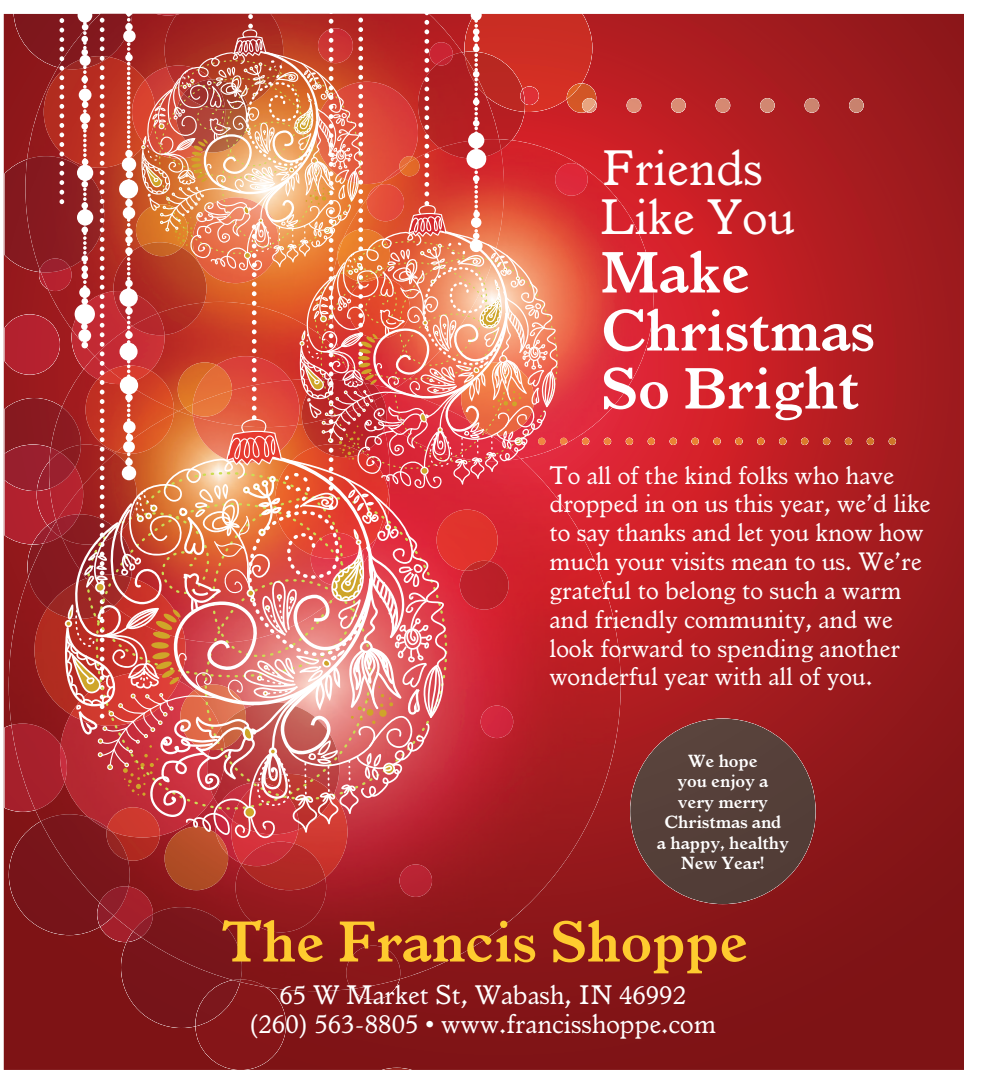
Still, he said, the U.S. will stay in the country "until we have a deal or we have total victory."

Trump made the announcement as he met with Ghani, the Afghan president. Ghani thanked the Americans who have made the "ultimate sacrifice" in Afghanistan and assured the president that Afghan security forces are increasingly leading the fight.

"In the next three months, it's going to be all Afghanistan!" Ghani said.

Ghani also praised Trump for the October mission that killed Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The Afghan leader also indicated, as Trump himself has, that the al-Baghdadi mission was even more significant than the 2011 mission targeting al-Qaida founder Osama bin Laden. The bin Laden mission was ordered by then-President Barack Obama.

"President Trump, people talked a lot about bin Laden, but what you did to eliminate al-Baghdadi, who was an organizer and not a talker, is a much greater accomplishment," said Ghani, in remarks to U.S. troops before Trump's departure.



Party like a spy: Spookstock is intel world's hush-hush bash

BY ASHRAF KHALIL
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sometime earlier this year, one of the most elite social events in Washington took place, but without any fanfare or news coverage.

It drew about 1,800 attendees and Grammy-winning rocker Lenny Kravitz performed. Yet there were no written invitations, and the actual date and location were carefully guarded secrets.

The annual charitable event is mischievously known as Spookstock. While many Washington insiders, let alone the public, haven't heard of it, the gala has become a centerpiece for the capital region's tightknit intelligence and military special operations communities.

"I've done my share of formal events and black dress nights. This is a lot more fun," said retired Maj. Gen. Clay Hutmacher, the former director of operations for U.S. Special Operations Command. "It's very casual. If you want to show up in a Def Leppard T-shirt, that's fine."

Now in its seventh year, Spookstock has raised millions for the CIA Officers Memorial Foundation and the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, which look after the families of CIA officers and special operations forces killed in the field. Last year, after expenses, each charity received about $400,000, according to Spookstock board member Mark Kelton.

The event is essentially fueled by defense contractors and mainstays of the military-industrial complex that pay big money for a table or a balcony box. Kelton, a retired CIA officer, would only say those corporate boxes are "not cheap." Other government employees or members of military who secure an invitation pay a much lower, but still undisclosed, rate.

The invitation list and event details are closely guarded by Kelton and the four-member board. Given the clandestine nature of some of the participants' work life, news coverage and social media postings are avoided. The only real online traces are a smattering of articles, some briefs in intelligence-focused newsletters and a few unauthorized YouTube videos.

A visit to the Spookstock website reveals a parody of the original Woodstock logo, a password box and nothing else. Spookstocks have been held at a warehouse in Springfield, Virginia, and a farm in Loudoun County, Virginia. Previous attendees have included actors Robert DeNiro and Harvey Keitel. Kelton says he's constantly fending off invitation requests and adds somewhat proudly that he has never extended an invitation to an active politician.

The guests of honor are a few dozen young beneficiaries – college seniors or recent graduates who have had their entire university education paid for by one of the foundations. Last year, 30 beneficiaries were flown in, Kelton said, with a major airline donating the tickets.

While the CIA foundation focuses exclusively on funding higher education, the special operations fund helps cover preschool, tutoring, SAT prep and college visits in addition to a full scholarship.

"We call it cradle to career," said Hutmacher, the head of the foundation, who estimates that the fund spends an average of $250,000 per child. The standard military death benefit for a soldier killed on duty is a lump-sum payment of $100,000.

Kelton said that losing a parent amid "murky circumstances" can produce a specific sort of trauma among the children.

"You're always wondering how it happened and you can never know," he said. "These are closed worlds."

Kelton said the only networking that's allowed is among the young beneficiaries. The weekend serves as an informal job fair for the new graduates if they want to pursue a career in defense or intelligence.

Beyond the financial help, Kelton said a large element of the event is having beneficiaries meet each other and forge bonds.

"The most important part is to get them all together, because most of these kids have gone through this ordeal on their own," he said. "It's a revelation to them to meet others who went through what they experienced."

The event has grown into a weekend of activities. In addition to tours of Washington and CIA headquarters for the young beneficiaries, corporate sponsors can pay extra for a day of pseudo special-operations training.

But the centerpiece is the concert. Spookstock headliners have included Peter Frampton, ZZ Top and the Steve Miller Band. Kravitz, 55, reflected an attempt to skew a bit younger, Kelton said.

Although Spookstock is relatively new, the charitable foundations that it benefits are much older. The early version of what would develop into the Special Operations Warrior Foundation was created in the wake of Operation Eagle Claw – the 1980 attempt to rescue the 52 hostages held in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The operation was aborted by President Jimmy Carter and resulted in the deaths of eight servicemen, leaving behind a total of 17 children.

"Senior leaders at the time passed the hat" to help those children, said Hutmacher, a former commander of the Army's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, known as the Night Stalkers. But the experience led to the creation of what would become the foundation.

"Now most of the wars being fought are with special operations and intelligence," Kelton said. "The pace of losses since 9/11 has increased sharply."

Ads assail conservative legal group over Trump's court picks

BY MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A liberal activist group is launching a digital ad campaign targeting the Federalist Society, a conservative legal organization that has championed judges appointed by President Donald Trump, such as Supreme Court Justices Brett Kavanaugh and Neil Gorsuch.

The ads, to appear on LinkedIn and Facebook, assail major law firms that sponsored the Federalist Society's recently annual dinner, where Kavanaugh addressed more than 2,000 people in tuxedos and gowns at Washington's Union Station.

The ads feature photos of a snarling Kavanaugh, along with Christine Blasey Ford, the woman who accused him of sexually assaulting her when they were teenagers, a charge he denied. "The Federalist Society is rebuilding Kavanaugh's image" through events such as its annual dinner, the ad charges, so why are the law firms paying for it?

Sponsored by Demand Justice, the ads target a half-dozen prominent firms that sponsored the dinner, such as Kirkland & Ellis, where Kavanaugh served as a partner, as well as Sullivan & Cromwell, WilmerHale and Consovoy McCarthy, where a senior partner was recently confirmed as a federal appellate judge.

The bare-knuckle ads are a rarity in the city's genteel legal world and an example of the increasing toxicity of the political debate over Trump's judicial nominees.

Demand Justice says the ads are the beginning of a sustained campaign "to hold accountable" people who help the Federalist Society "rehabilitate a sexual predator and attack the rule of law."

The Federalist Society declined to comment. Carrie Severino, a longtime Federalist Society member and policy director of the conservative Judicial Crisis Network, called criticism by Demand Justice and other liberal groups a badge of honor.

The Federalist group "is a successful network of conservatives and conservative lawyers that are very effective," Severino said. Liberal critics "don't like that," she added.

The ads come as Trump and his allies celebrate his administration's success in getting more than 160 federal judicial nominees confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate, including 48 appeals court judges. About a quarter of current federal appeals court judges were nominated by Trump.

Senate Majority Mitch McConnell of Kentucky hailed Trump's record on reshaping courts in an appearance with the Republican president this month. "And Mr. President, we're going to keep on doing it," he said. "My motto is: Leave no vacancy behind."

The Senate will begin considering eight more judicial nominees next week, including Sarah Pitlyk, a former Kavanaugh clerk who was deemed unqualified by the American Bar Association. Pitlyk, who has never tried a case, works for an anti-abortion-rights group. Many Democrats opposed her nomination.

Brian Fallon, executive director of Demand Justice, is a former adviser to Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign and former spokesman for Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer.

He said Pitlyk's nomination and the recent party line confirmation of Steven Menashi, a former White House lawyer named by Trump to a New York-based appeals court, show the importance of the ad campaign.

Many of Trump's nominees, Menashi among them, have ties to the Federalist Society, which has vetted and recommended dozens of conservative lawyers for Trump's consideration as judges.

"Trump is larding up the judiciary with people who are loyal to him," Fallon said.

The hard-hitting ads featuring Kavanaugh mirror the aggressive tactics conservative groups have used for years, Fallon said.

"The other side has been playing for keeps when it comes the courts for a long time," he said. "Democrats need to get back in the game."

Fallon angered more than a few Democrats recently with an ad criticizing Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., a moderate who has supported some Trump judicial nominees. Fallon's group said Coons should have opposed nominees who refused to explicitly endorse Brown v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court's landmark 1954 ruling that outlawed school segregation.

Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, the No. 2 Democrat in the Senate, called the ad "way out of line."

Coons, who is up for reelection in 2020, brushed off the criticism.

Fallon said hardball tactics are succeeding. A report card compiled by Demand Justice found that in 2017-18, Senate Democrats voted for Trump's judicial nominees more than 60 percent of the time. By 2019, Democratic support for judicial nominees plummeted to 28 percent.

Democrats unanimously opposed Menashi and Appeals Court Judge Neomi Rao, another former Trump aide who like Menashi had never tried a case before winning a lifetime seat on the appellate court.

Despite their confirmations, Fallon said he was "delighted" at Democratic solidarity in both cases. Unified opposition is needed to slow Trump's transformation of the courts, he said.

WilmerHale and other law firms targeted by the ads declined to comment.

ASK THE IMPLANT DENTIST

What role does technology play in dental implant treatment plans?

By Dr. Robert Schroering

Technology has changed the dental world and how dentists are able to perform patient treatment. Some newer technologies assist greatly with patient care.

One of the more increasingly important technologies that is essential for placing dental implants is the use of a CBCT x-ray machine. CBCT, which stands for Cone Beam Computed Tomography is a medical imaging technique that allows accurate, three-dimensional imaging of hard tissue structures. CBCT is among the most significant advancements in recent medical diagnostic imaging methods.

In my dental practice, I would not recommend a dental implant treatment plan without a CBCT image. Using anything less than this type of imaging would be an educated guess. These high-quality, accurate images that are collected at the pre-surgical stage yield dividends in both implant outcomes and patient satisfaction. By using a CBCT image, patient satisfaction is improved by reducing discomfort and improving soft tissue outcomes. Using traditional x-ray methods which are 2-D rather than 3-D like a CBCT are not ideal because of the missing dimension. 2-D images have more distortion and are less accurate in showing bone height and width and jawbone thickness, critical information required when devising a treatment plan and performing the implant procedure.

As dentists work to meet the growing demand for implants, cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) is an essential tool for treatment planning and post-procedure monitoring. Be sure your implant dentist is using this very important piece of technology.

Dr. Robert Schroering completed his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree at the University of Louisville in 1987. With over 30 years of experience, he is a general dentist and Board Certified by the American Board of Oral Implantology, who offers comprehensive, high quality gentle dental implant care in his state-of-the-art practice.

Dr. Schroering has placed over 12,000 dental implants since placing his first in 1990. He helped pioneer many of the advanced immediate load, less invasive dental implant techniques being done today that allow patients to skip multiple surgeries and save time.

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Quick Hits

Area calendar

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Girls basketball - Manchester vs. Oak Hill, 6 p.m.

Redskins linebacker's ironman streak to end at 139 games

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — Ryan Kerrigan's streak of 139 consecutive starts will end after he was ruled out of the Washington Redskins' game Sunday at Carolina.

Kerrigan owned the fourth-longest active streak in the NFL trailing only Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers' 215 games, Ravens cornerback Brandon Carr's 183 and Buccaneers defensive lineman Ndamukong Suh's 148. The Redskins linebacker was concussed in a 19-16 victory against the Detroit Lions last week.

The 31-year-old pass rusher did not practice all week. Interim coach Bill Callahan confirmed Friday that Kerrigan wouldn't play at Carolina.

Washington's first-round pick in 2011, Kerrigan has 435 tackles and 89 sacks in his pro career. He ranks second on the Redskins with 4 ½ sacks this season.

Irving won't face Celtics again, misses 8th straight game

NEW YORK (AP) — Nets point guard Kyrie Irving is missing an eighth straight game because of an injured right shoulder. He is again unable to face his former team, the Boston Celtics.

Brooklyn hoped he could return Friday for the second part of its home-and-home against Boston. Instead, the Nets ruled him out once more with an impingement and hoped to have an update after the game.

Coach Kenny Atkinson said Irving would be at the arena for further evaluation. Irving averaged a team-high 28.5 points in 11 games before he was hurt.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

Mailed into *Plain Dealer,* 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

FILE PHOTO

SOCCER: Manchester's Harley Kruschwitz (left, 10) celebrates with a teammate in front of Squire fans after scoring his third goal against Canterbury in the sectional semi-final.

Kruschwitz caps off soccer career with stellar season

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

Admittedly, soccer had not always been Harley Kruschwitz's strongest passion even if it had been apart of his life since he was a child. He can hardly remember a time where he wasn't kicking a ball, whether in youth leagues as a kindergartner or, more recently, at Good Fields as a high schooler.

"I've always played soccer," Kruschwitz said. "For as long as I can remember, I've always had a ball at my feet. I never really worked hard at it, though. It was kind of a secondary sport, almost. First I played baseball, then golf. Soccer was always something I just did for fun. So, it's always kind of been more natural and less hard work."

No matter where soccer ranked on his personal list, Kruschwitz's senior season ranked among the best in the state, if not the country.

Driven by a yearning for a sectional title and flanked by classmates that had long been teammates and friends, Kruschwitz shattered records on the year. His 51 goals represent a figure that may never be eclipsed at Manchester, nor may his 110 career goals. His season tally was comfortably the most in the state this season and slotted him 11th in goals across the entire nation.

While Kruschwitz had set individual goals on the season, even those came with an idea of a greater good for the Squires.

"The number one goal of just my whole high school career was to win a sectional title," he said. "That was the ultimate goal. We never had that. And we wanted to win the (Manchester Invitational) and wanted to win our conference. They were kind of three different things we wanted to win, kind of like a treble almost.

"Individually, the single-season record, both Caleb (Stout) and I were trying to break that together, as well as the all-time record. I thought if I could break that, that would lead to a successful season (for the team)."

His breakout fall season has been long in the works, though. Even before showing promise both individually and as part of a Squire team that fell just short time and time again in the last four seasons, before even becoming a Squire, Kruschwitz was knocking a soccer ball around alongside faces that he would grow familiar with.

"I can remember playing in kindergarten out at the university on Saturdays with my friends that are still playing together," he said, referencing Justin Self, Sam Reichenbach and Stout, all starters on this season's team. "It's pretty cool that there are three or four us that stuck with us that long."

Even after joining the Squires as a freshman, Kruschwitz was still searching for ways to improve. He found that as part of a club team in the off-season in Fort Wayne with the U16 Fort Wayne Sport Club team. Kruschwitz noted the importance of playing at that level and the developments even one season had on his game.

"Just that one year of club soccer opened my eyes a lot," he said. "It made me a smarter soccer player. I think that helped develop me a little bit."

No motivation may have

See **KRUSCHWITZ** / Page B3

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Top 25 high school athletes of fall

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

1. Harley Kruschwitz, soccer, Manchester

In one of the best seasons in the program's history, Kruschwitz scored 51 goals and assisted 23. Behind his stellar season, Manchester won the program's first sectional title in a penalty shootout over Culver.

2. Braden Sweet, cross country, Southwood

Wins in the Three Rivers Conference (TRC) and regional races highlighted a state-qualifying season for Sweet in his junior campaign.

3. Dereck Vogel, cross country, Wabash

The lone race Sweet did not win was the sectional in which Vogel ran a personal-best time of 15:55. Vogel returned to the state meet and led the Apaches to back-to-back TRC titles.

4. Addi Baker, volleyball, Northfield

Baker's 379 kills ranked second in the TRC this fall and the top mark in the county. Baker's play earned her a spot in the Indiana High School Volleyball Coaches Association North All-District Team.

5. Rob Ford, tennis, Wabash

An All-Conference season for Ford saw the senior advance to the regional as an individual, ending his final campaign as an Apache with an 18-3 record.

6. Alyssa McKillip, cross country, Northfield

McKillip took third in the TRC meet this fall before finishing fifth in the sectional and 10th in the regional. She capped off her career with another berth at the semi-state, finishing 61st to wrap up her career.

7. Carson Rich, football, Southwood

While the Knights were balanced on the season on both sides of the ball, Rich was the standout. On offense, Rich had 434 yards and six touchdowns. On defense, he picked off nine passes and had 85 tackles.

8. Caleb Stout, soccer, Manchester

Overshadowed at times by Kruschwitz, Stout had a stellar season of his own, tallying 28 goals and 13 assists. He finishes his career with 91 goals, second all-time in the program's history to only Kruschwitz.

9. Levi Fulkerson, football, Northfield

After a rocky start to the season, Fulkerson settled in and finished with 1,817 yards of offense and 22 total touchdowns while leading the Norse to an upset of Southwood in the sectional.

10. Alex Farr, football, Southwood

The quarterback of the conference-winning Knights finished with 1,563 total yards on offense with 15 touchdowns, leading Southwood to an unbeaten regular season.

11. Alivia Short, volleyball, Wabash

In a new role this season as a middle hitter, Short had 272 kills, 70 aces and 84 blocks, each of those second-most on the Apaches while leading them to a repeat as sectional champions.

12. Kallen Kelsheimer, football, Wabash

A slow start to the season gave way to a strong finish as Kelsheimer rushed for 1,070 yards and 12 touchdowns with at least 100 yards in four of his last five games.

13. Mariah Wyatt, volleyball, Wabash

Building off a fantastic freshman season, Wyatt led Wabash in kills (314) and blocks (117) and was an integral part of Wabash's postseason run.

14. Bryant Boggs, football, Wabash

Boggs had one of the best starts to the season in the state as a receiver and finished with 837 yards on 35 catches with nine touchdowns, leading the conference in receiving by almost 400 yards.

15. Bella Carrillo, golf, Wabash

Carrillo led Wabash to county, conference and sectional titles, earning medalist honors at the TRC meet.

16. Sam Kissell, golf, Manchester

Capping off a decorated career, Kissell was medalist at the Wabash County meet and advanced to the regional

See **ATHLETES** / Page B3

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

17 county athletes earn All-TRC honors

STAFF REPORTS

After a second consecutive perfect conference season, six Knights were named to the Three Rivers Conference (TRC) All-Conference football team this fall.

Quarterback Alex Farr, running back Gabe Lloyd, wide receiver Carson Rich, defensive lineman Dillion Filip, defensive back Elijah Sutton and linebacker Riley Whitesel all represented Southwood on the All-Conference team.

Four members from both Northfield, who advanced to the sectional final after upsetting Southwood, and Wabash earned spots on the All-Conference team. Manchester had three players on the All-Conference team.

For the Norse, offensive lineman Ross Watson, defensive lineman Micah Higgins, defensive back Seth Forsyth and linebacker Graydon Holmes earned All-Conference honors. Wide receiver Bryant Boggs, running back Kallen Kelsheimer, defensive lineman Tyler Honeycutt and linebacker Keegan O'Neill represented the Apaches on the team.

For the Norse, Forsyth and Holmes finished fifth and sixth in the conference, respectively, in tackles this season. Forsyth had a trio of interceptions on the year as well. Higgins was third on the team in tackles with 80 with a team-best 20 of those being for loss. Higgins' 20 tackles for loss were the high mark in the TRC this year.

After big rushing yards from Lloyd last season, Southwood's offensive attack this season was far more balanced. Lloyd led the team in rushing once more this season with 684 yards on 126 carries with 13 touchdowns. Farr was second on the team in rushing with 426 yards while also passing for 1,137 yards with 15 total touchdowns.

The Knight defense was one of the stingiest in the state this season, allowing just 6.91 points per game, the second-best mark in Class A. Three members of that unit earned All-Conference spots. Whitesel led the team in tackles with 91, including 10 for a loss. Filip had 88 tackles and Rich 85 to follow Whitesel. Rich led the team and conference in interceptions with nine on the year.

Kelsheimer and Boogs were the two main weapons for the Apache offense this fall. The former rushed for 1,070 yards and 12 touchdowns while the latter caught 35 passes for 837 yards and nine touchdowns. O'Neill anchored the defense with 123 tackles on the year while Honeycutt had 79 tackles with 14 for loss including a team-high six sacks.

For the Squires, Krull had 141 yards on 10 catches with three scores this season. Defensively, Miller had 65 tackles and Kamphues 61 on the year while Miller and Krull each recovered a pair of fumbles this year. Krull also picked off a pair of passes.

Earning Honorable Mentions from Wabash County were Devin Marcum and Braxton Ream of Manchester, Levi Fulkerson and Logan Cox of Northfield, Logan Barley and Connor Rich of Southwood and Cash Carmichael and Isaiah Eis of Wabash.

ON THE AIR

AUTO RACING
7:55 a.m.
ESPN2: Formula One: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, qualifying, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
BEACH SOCCER (MEN'S)
7:30 p.m.
FS2: FIFA World Cup: Italy vs. Russia, Semifinal, Luque, Paraguay
9 p.m.
FS2: FIFA World Cup: Japan vs. Portugal, Semifinal, Luque, Paraguay
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
12 p.m.
FS2: Wagner at St. John's
2 p.m.
FS2: North Carolina (Greensboro) at Georgetown
7 p.m.
CBSSN: Emerald Coast Classic: Teams TBD, Championship, Niceville, Fla.
COLLEGE FOOTBALL
12 p.m.
ABC: Georgia at Georgia Tech
CBSSN: Florida International at Marshall
ESPN: Clemson at South Carolina
ESPN2: Indiana at Purdue
ESPNU: Tulsa at East Carolina
FOX: Ohio State at Michigan
FS1: Northwestern at Illinois
SEC: Louisville at Kentucky
3:30 p.m.
ABC: Wisconsin at Minnesota
BTN: Rutgers at Penn State
CBS: Alabama at Auburn
CBSSN: Connecticut at Temple
ESPN: Baylor at Kansas
ESPN2: Miami at Duke
FS1: Maryland at Michigan State
4 p.m.
FOX: Notre Dame at Stanford
SEC: Vanderbilt at Tennessee
5 p.m.
NBCSN: Southern vs. Grambling State, New Orleans
7 p.m.
ESPN: Texas A&M at Louisiana State
ESPN2: Navy at Houston
FS1: Iowa at Kansas State
7:30 p.m.
ABC: Colorado at Utah
SEC: Florida State at Florida
8 p.m.
FOX: Oklahoma at Oklahoma State
10 p.m.
ESPN: Arizona at Arizona State
10:30 p.m.
ESPN2: Fresno State at San Jose State
FS1: California at UCLA
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
1 p.m.
BTN: Wisconsin at Penn State
4:30 p.m.
FS2: Big East Tournament: Teams TBD, Championship, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
8 p.m.
BTN: Minnesota at Penn State
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
10 p.m.
NBCSN: FIS: World Cup, Women's 10km, Ruka, Finland (taped)
GOLF
4:30 a.m.
GOLF: EPGA Tour: The Alfred Dunhill Championship, third round, Fife, Scotland
LUGE
2:30 p.m.
NBC: FIL: World Cup, Women's Singles, Lake Placid, N.Y.
NBA BASKETBALL
7 p.m.
NBA: Indiana at Philadelphia
SKIING
12:30 p.m.
NBCSN: FIS World Cup: The Killington Cup, Women's Giant Slalom, Killington, Vt.
3:30 p.m.
NBC: FIS World Cup: The Killington Cup, Women's Giant Slalom, Killington, Vt.
9 p.m.
NBCSN: FIS: World Cup, Downhill, Lake Louise, Alberta
SOCCER (MEN'S)
9:20 a.m.
FS2: Bundesliga: Borussia Dortmund at Hertha Berlin
9:55 a.m.
NBCSN: Premier League: Bournemouth at Tottenham
12:30 p.m.
NBC: Premier League: Watford at Southampton

Sunday, Dec. 1

AUTO RACING
8:05 a.m.
ESPN2: Formula One: The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
BEACH SOCCER (MEN'S)
2 p.m.
FS2: FIFA World Cup: Teams TBD, Third-Place Match, Luque, Paraguay
4 p.m.
FS2: FIFA World Cup: Teams TBD, Final, Luque, Paraguay
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
10:30 a.m.
ESPNU: ESPN Orlando Invitational: Teams TBD, Seventh-Place Game, Orlando, Fla.
1 p.m.
ESPNU: ESPN Orlando Invitational: Teams TBD, Championship, Orlando
1:30 p.m.
ESPN2: Wooden Legacy: Teams TBD, Third-Place Game, Anaheim
4 p.m.
ESPN2: ESPN Orlando Invitational: Teams TBD, Fifth-Place Game, Orlando, Fla.
ESPNU: Wooden Legacy: Teams TBD, Fifth-Place Game, Anaheim
5 p.m.
BTN: Cal Poly at Iowa
6:30 p.m.
ESPN2: ESPN Orlando Invitational: Teams TBD, Third-Place Game, Orlando, Fla.
ESPNU: Wooden Legacy: Teams TBD, Seventh-Place Game, Anaheim
FS1: La Salle at Villanova
7 p.m.
BTN: North Dakota at Minnesota
9 p.m.
ESPN: Wooden Legacy: Teams TBD, Championship, Anaheim, Calif.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
2 p.m.
SEC: Air Force at Tennessee
4 p.m.
SEC: Austin Peay at Kentucky
COLLEGE HOCKEY (MEN'S)
2:30 p.m.
BTN: Michigan State at Ohio State
5 p.m.
BTN: Michigan at Wisconsin
COLLEGE SOCCER (MEN'S)
12 p.m.
BTN: NCAA Tournament: California (Santa Barbara) at Indiana, Third Round
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
8:30 p.m.
ESPNU: NCAA Selection Special
GOLF
4:30 a.m.
GOLF: EPGA Tour: The Alfred Dunhill Championship, final round, Fife, Scotland
LUGE
5:30 p.m.
NBCSN: FIL: World Cup, Lake Placid, N.Y. (taped)
NFL FOOTBALL
1 p.m.
CBS: Regional Coverage: NY Jets at Cincinnati, Tennessee at Indianapolis, Cleveland at Pittsburgh, Washington at Carolina
FOX: Regional Coverage: Philadelphia at Miami, Green Bay at NY Giants, Tampa Bay at Jacksonville, San Francisco at Baltimore
4:05 p.m.
FOX: Regional Coverage: LA Rams at Arizona
4:25 p.m.
CBS: Regional Coverage: LA Chargers at Denver, Oakland at Kansas City
8:20 p.m.
NBC: New England at Houston
SKIING
12:30 p.m.
NBC: FIS World Cup: The Killington Cup, Women's Slalom, Killington, Vt.
2 p.m.
NBC: FIS: World Cup, Super G, Lake Louise, Alberta
7:30 p.m.
NBCSN: FIS World Cup: The Killington Cup, Women's Slalom, Killington, Vt. (taped)
SOCCER (MEN'S)
8:55 a.m.
NBCSN: Premier League: Arsenal at Norwich City
9:30 a.m.
FS1: Bundesliga: SC Freiburg at Borussia Mönchengladbach
11:25 a.m.
NBCSN: Premier League: Aston Villa at Manchester United
11:55 a.m.
ESPNEWS: SERIE A: Bologna at Napoli
12 p.m.
FS1: Bundesliga: Werder Bremen at VfL Wolfsburg

SCOREBOARD

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Indiana AP boys basketball poll
The Associated Press Top 10 Indiana high school boys basketball teams, with first-place votes in parentheses, records, rating points and previous rankings:

Class 4A

	W-L	Pts
1. Lawrence Central (9)	0-0	214
2. Carmel (3)	0-1	197
3. Bloomington South	1-0	156
4. Lawrence North	0-0	135
5. Indpls Ben Davis	0-1	95
6. Warren Central	0-0	83
7. Homestead	0-0	77
8. Jeffersonville	0-0	70
9. Brownsburg	0-0	53
10. Indianapolis Attucks	1-0	36

Others receiving votes: Lafayette Jeff 35. Center Grove 32. Indpls Cathedral 30. Floyd Central 29. Avon 29. Culver Academy 27. Zionsville 26. Northridge 16. S. Bend Adams 12. Huntington North 12. Ev. Reitz 10. New Palestine 10. Ft. Wayne Snider 9. New Albany 8. Penn 7. Fishers 7. Hamilton Southeastern 7. Elkhart Memorial 6. Carroll (Allen) 6. S. Bend Riley 6.

Class 3A

	W-L	Pts
1. Silver Creek (8)	0-0	206
2. Delta (2)	0-0	174
3. Heritage Hills (1)	0-0	138
4. Indpls Brebeuf	1-0	113
5. Mishawaka Marian	0-0	85
6. Greensburg	0-0	77
(tie) Ev. Bosse	0-0	77
8. Beech Grove	1-0	64
9. Princeton	1-0	62
10. Hammond	0-0	53

Others receiving votes: Greencastle 36. S. Bend St. Joseph's 28. Indpls Ritter 21. Griffith 19. Danville 19. Evansville Memorial 18. Northwestern 18. Edgewood 15. NorthWood 12. N. Harrison 12. Bellmont 10. Angola 9. New Castle 9. Sullivan 9. W. Lafayette 8. Central Noble 8. Ft. Wayne Concordia 7. Guerin Catholic 7. Ft. Wayne Dwenger 6.

Class 2A

	W-L	Pts
1. Andrean (6)	0-1	190
2. Linton-Stockton	0-0	153
3. Shenandoah	0-0	123
4. Westview	0-0	117
5. Ft. Wayne Blackhawk (3)	0-0	108
5. Frankton	0-0	108
7. Southwestern (Jefferson) (1)	0-0	84
8. Indpls Park Tudor (1)	0-0	56
9. Indpls Howe	0-1	50
10. Paoli	0-0	42

Others receiving votes: Southridge 40. Heritage Christian 32. Tell City 29. Prairie Hts. 21. Tipton 20. LaVille 19. Blackford 17. Wabash 17. Westville 14. Bowman Academy 14. Churubusco 14. Ev. Mater Dei 12. Hammond Noll 8. Michigan City Marquette 7. Northeastern 7. Indpls Covenant Christian 6. University 6.

Class 1A

	W-L	Pts
1. Gary 21st Century (4)	0-0	158
2. Argos (1)	0-0	125
3. Bloomfield	0-0	110
4. Barr-Reeve (3)	0-0	102
5. Lafayette Catholic (2)	0-0	94
6. Indpls Metro	0-0	89
7. Morristown	0-0	88
8. Kouts	1-0	81
9. Greenwood Christian	0-0	72
10. Oldenburg	0-0	48

Others receiving votes: Lanesville 29. Tindley 26. Washington Twp. 23. N. Vermillion 23. Ev. Day 19. Loogootee 18. Christian Academy 17. Covenant Christian (DeMotte) 17. N. Daviess 12. Elkhart Christian 8. Springs Valley 8. W. Washington 7. Traders Point Christian 7. Attica 7. Jac-Cen-Del 6. S. Central (Harrison) 6. Seton Catholic 6.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	1	0	.909	300	117
Buffalo	9	3	0	.750	257	188
N.Y. Jets	4	7	0	.364	198	258
Miami	2	9	0	.182	163	346
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	7	4	0	.636	265	249
Indianapolis	6	5	0	.545	244	226
Tennessee	6	5	0	.545	245	217
Jacksonville	4	7	0	.364	209	264
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	9	2	0	.818	386	202
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	.545	216	212
Cleveland	5	6	0	.455	233	252
Cincinnati	0	11	0	.000	157	292
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	7	4	0	.636	308	256
Oakland	6	5	0	.545	228	284
L.A. Chargers	4	7	0	.364	224	218
Denver	3	8	0	.273	175	217

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	6	6	0	.500	310	236
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	243	247
N.Y. Giants	2	9	0	.182	217	308
Washington	2	9	0	.182	144	269
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	10	2	0	.833	298	248
Carolina	5	6	0	.455	259	291
Tampa Bay	4	7	0	.364	312	335
Atlanta	3	9	0	.250	260	323
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	3	0	.727	258	242
Minnesota	8	3	0	.727	289	205
Chicago	6	6	0	.500	212	208
Detroit	3	8	1	.292	280	315
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	10	1	0	.909	332	163
Seattle	9	2	0	.818	292	263
L.A. Rams	6	5	0	.545	249	243
Arizona	3	7	1	.318	248	317

Thursday's Games
Chicago 24, Detroit 20
Buffalo 26, Dallas 15
New Orleans 26, Atlanta 18

Sunday's Games
Tampa Bay at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Green Bay at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Washington at Carolina, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
Oakland at Kansas City, 4:25 p.m.
New England at Houston, 8:20 p.m.

Monday's Game
Minnesota at Seattle, 8:15 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

AP Top 25 Schedule

Friday's Games
No. 17 Memphis vs. No. 18 Cincinnati
No. 19 Iowa at Nebraska
No. 20 Boise State at Colorado State
No. 22 Appalachian State at Troy
No. 23 Virginia Tech at Virginia

Saturday's Games
No. 1 LSU vs. Texas A&M, 7 p.m.
No. 2 Ohio State at No. 10 Michigan, Noon
No. 3 Clemson at South Carolina, Noon
No. 4 Georgia at Georgia Tech, Noon
No. 5 Alabama at No. 16 Auburn, 3:30 p.m.
No. 6 Utah vs. Colorado, 7:30 p.m.
No. 7 Oklahoma at No. 21 Oklahoma St, 8 p.m.
No. 8 Florida vs. Florida State, 7:30 p.m.
No. 9 Minnesota vs. No. 13 Wisconsin, 3:30 p.m.
No. 11 Baylor at Kansas, 3:30 p.m.
No. 12 Penn State vs. Rutgers, 3:30 p.m.
No. 14 Oregon vs. Oregon State, 4 p.m.
No. 15 Notre Dame at Stanford, 4 p.m.
No. 24 Navy at Houston, 7 p.m.

College Football Playoff standings

	Record
1. Ohio St.	11-0
2. LSU	11-0
3. Clemson	11-0
4. Georgia	10-1
5. Alabama	10-1
6. Utah	10-1
7. Oklahoma	10-1
8. Minnesota	10-1
9. Baylor	10-1
10. Penn St.	9-2
11. Florida	9-2
12. Wisconsin	9-2
13. Michigan	9-2
14. Oregon	9-2
15. Auburn	8-3
16. Notre Dame	9-2
17. Iowa	8-3
18. Memphis	10-1
19. Cincinnati	10-1
20. Boise St.	10-1
21. Oklahoma St.	8-3
22. Southern Cal	8-4
23. Iowa St.	7-4
24. Virginia Tech	8-3
25. Appalachian St.	10-1

The playoff semifinals match the No. 1 seed vs. the No. 4 seed, and No. 2 will face No. 3. The semifinals will be hosted at the Peach Bowl and Fiesta Bowl on Dec. 28. The championship game will be played on Jan. 13, 2020 at New Orleans.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	13	4	.765	—
Toronto	13	4	.765	—
Philadelphia	12	6	.667	1½
Brooklyn	9	9	.500	4½
New York	4	14	.222	9½
Southeast Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	12	5	.706	—
Orlando	7	10	.412	5
Washington	6	10	.375	5½
Charlotte	7	12	.368	6
Atlanta	4	14	.222	8½
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	15	3	.833	—
Indiana	11	6	.647	3½
Detroit	6	12	.333	9
Chicago	6	13	.316	9½
Cleveland	5	13	.278	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	12	6	.667	—
Dallas	11	6	.647	½
New Orleans	6	12	.333	6
San Antonio	6	13	.316	6½
Memphis	5	12	.294	6½
Northwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	13	3	.813	—
Utah	11	7	.611	3
Minnesota	10	8	.556	4
Portland	7	12	.368	7½
Oklahoma City	6	11	.353	7½
Pacific Division	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	16	2	.889	—
L.A. Clippers	14	5	.737	2½
Phoenix	8	9	.471	7½
Sacramento	7	10	.412	8½
Golden State	4	15	.211	12½

Thursday's Games
No games scheduled

Friday's Games
Boston at Brooklyn
Charlotte at Detroit
Toronto at Orlando
Milwaukee at Cleveland
Philadelphia at New York
Atlanta at Indiana
Golden State at Miami
New Orleans at Oklahoma City
Utah at Memphis
L.A. Clippers at San Antonio
Dallas at Phoenix
Chicago at Portland
Washington at L.A. Lakers

Saturday's Games
Denver at Sacramento, 5 p.m.
Indiana at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Houston, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Miami at Brooklyn, 3 p.m.
Boston at New York, 3:30 p.m.
Memphis at Minnesota, 3:30 p.m.
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 4 p.m.
Oklahoma City at New Orleans, 5 p.m.
San Antonio at Detroit, 5 p.m.
Golden State at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Utah at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	25	17	3	5	39	93	62
Florida	25	12	8	5	29	91	93
Toronto	26	12	10	4	28	87	85
Montreal	25	11	9	5	27	85	89
Tampa Bay	22	12	8	2	26	83	72
Buffalo	25	11	10	4	26	71	76
Ottawa	25	11	13	1	23	66	74
Detroit	27	7	17	3	17	59	104
Metropolitan Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	26	17	4	5	39	95	78
N.Y. Islanders	23	16	5	2	34	69	58
Pittsburgh	25	14	7	4	32	89	68
Carolina	25	15	9	1	31	85	71
Philadelphia	25	13	7	5	31	75	74
N.Y. Rangers	23	12	9	2	26	77	80
Columbus	24	10	10	4	24	61	76
New Jersey	24	9	11	4	22	65	86

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	26	15	5	6	36	78	72
Dallas	26	15	9	2	32	72	62
Winnipeg	25	15	9	1	31	73	74
Colorado	24	14	8	2	30	85	70
Nashville	24	11	9	4	26	84	82
Chicago	24	10	9	5	25	69	69
Minnesota	25	10	11	4	24	69	82
Pacific Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Edmonton	27	16	8	3	35	86	77
Arizona	26	15	8	3	33	75	61
Vancouver	26	12	10	4	28	85	79
Vegas	27	12	11	4	28	81	80
Calgary	28	12	12	4	28	70	85
San Jose	26	13	12	1	27	74	88
Anaheim	26	11	11	4	26	71	79
Los Angeles	25	10	13	2	22	67	84

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Thursday's Game
New Jersey 6, Montreal 4

Friday's Games
N.Y. Rangers at Boston
Winnipeg at Anaheim
Detroit at Philadelphia
Ottawa at Minnesota
Toronto at Buffalo
Los Angeles at San Jose
Colorado at Chicago
Tampa Bay at Washington
Arizona at Vegas
Pittsburgh at Columbus
Nashville at Carolina
St. Louis at Dallas

Saturday's Games
N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Montreal, 3 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Calgary, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Columbus at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Florida, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Arizona, 8 p.m.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Edmonton, 10 p.m.
Winnipeg at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Assigned LHP Brian Johnson outright to Pawtucket (IL).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Assigned C Nick Dini and RHPs Arnaldo Hernandez and Conner Greene outright to Omaha (PCL).
National League
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Assigned LHP Williams Jerez and RHPs Luis Escobar and Montana DuRapau to Indianapolis (IL).

NFL

Pivotal game could have key playoff impact for Colts, Titans

BY MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Forget the big picture,

Sure, the Indianapolis Colts understand it's a pivotal division game and the long-term ramification of Sunday's outcome every bit as much as does Tennessee.

But with the hype building and the potential of a season-changing moment increasing, the Colts are reverting to what they do best: tune it all out.

"It's hard to do that," linebacker Anthony Walker said. "You want to stay the course, but I'm pretty sure it (the playoff picture) comes across everybody's television screens when you're watching. We know what we've got to do. We've got to focus on us and we've got to keep getting better."

In less than two seasons under coach Frank Reich, Indy (6-5) has repeatedly demonstrated it can cast aside the outside noise.

When just about everyone wrote off the Colts following a 1-5 start last season, they rallied to win eight of nine before clinching a playoff spot with a 33-17 victory in Nashville that also eliminated the Titans.

After Andrew Luck retired during the preseason, the doubters discounted Indy's ability to rebound. Instead, Jacoby Brissett took over and led the Colts to a 5-2 mark.

Now, with three losses in four games knocking them out of the AFC South lead, injuries mounting and their playoff hopes in peril, the Colts are getting back to basics.

"We have a tough challenge every week," tight end Jack Doyle said. "So to be looking at anything other than this week really is a disaster."

Tennessee (6-5) understands.

The Titans played their way back into playoff position last year by winning four straight December games before losing to the Colts yet again. They have replicated that strong run by winning four of five games since benching quarterback Marcus Mariota and going with Ryan Tannehill.

They've moved into a tie for second with Indy.

And though Tannehill hasn't been much more successful against the Colts than the Titans, who have lost 14 of 16 in the series, a win Sunday would change everything.

The Colts know it and the Titans know it, despite downplaying down the significance of it.

"We definitely have to prove to ourselves that ... we can be a team that can win this division," Titans safety Kevin Byard said. "I think it starts with going through the Indianapolis Colts because we haven't had much success against these guys lately."

TANNEHILL EFFECT

The Titans scored four touchdowns in the span of six offensive plays last week. Better yet, the Titans seem to have found the offensive spark they needed in Tannehill. They have produced 842 total yards over the past two games and are averaging 29.4 points over the last five — third in the NFL during that span behind only Baltimore (39.3) and San Francisco (30.8).

Tannehill also is tied for third in the NFL with Lamar Jackson in passer rating (111.4), behind only Minnesota's Kirk Cousins (114.8) and Seattle's Russell Wilson (112.1).

DOWN, NOT OUT

The Colts will play their second straight game without running back Marlon Mack (broken right hand) and their first without Pro Bowl tight end Eric Ebron (ankle).

But Indy has been incredibly resilient under Reich.

Jonathan Williams got his first 100-yard game after the injured Mack left the Jacksonville game, and followed that with a second 100-yard game last Thursday at Houston, his first career start.

ATHLETES

Continued from B1

as an individual.

17. Emma Garriott, soccer, Manchester

Garriott set single-season and career scoring records on the year, leading Manchester to a conference title with 19 goals on the year.

18. Gabe Lloyd, football, Southwood

While not quite the gaudy numbers of his junior season, Lloyd rushed for 684 yards and 13 touchdowns while leading the team with 14 tackles for loss.

19. Abby Hunter, volleyball, Northfield

Hunter finished as the top setter in Wabash County with 658 assists and also recorded 40 blocks while being the centerpiece of Northfield's conference runner-up season.

20. Riley Whitesel, football, Southwood

Whitesel was the leader of the Knight defense on the year, leading the team in tackles with 90 and finishing second on the team in tackles for loss with 10.

21. Nici Gunderman, soccer, Wabash

Anchoring the backline for much of the season, Gunderman captained the Apaches to a sectional final appearance.

22. Graydon Holmes, football, Northfield

Holmes had a breakout senior season, finishing second on the team in tackles with 116 while picking off a pass and recovering a fumble. Offensively, he had 767 total yards with eight touchdowns.

23. Keegan O'Neill, football, Wabash

The junior linebacker led Wabash in tackles with 123 on the season while picking off two passes, forcing a fumble and recovering a fumble on the year.

24. Haylie Faust, volleyball, Wabash

Faust stepped in as a newcomer to the starting lineup for Wabash this season as a senior, recording a conference-best 725 digs as a libero.

25. Wyatt Davis, soccer, Wabash

In a breakout season for the Apaches, Davis led the team in goals and assists with 11 and nine, respectively, and guided Wabash to a second-place finish in the TRC.

By the numbers

By sport: football - 9, soccer - 5, volleyball - 5, cross country - 3, golf - 2, tennis - 1

By school: Wabash - 11, Southwood - 5, Northfield - 5, Manchester - 4

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Hoosiers hoping to capture Bucket at Purdue

BY MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

Reakwon Jones got a crash course in the Indiana-Purdue rivalry two years ago.

The Indiana linebacker was on the sideline in West Lafayette when Boilermakers' players raced across the field, snatched the Old Oaken Bucket from the Hoosiers and started celebrating their first win in the series in five years. It made quite an impression on the Florida native, one he still cites as motivation today.

"You know that belongs here," Jones said after recounting what he witnessed in 2017. "We want it here and we've got the case all clean for it. We just want to go get the Bucket back."

On Saturday, Jones and the other Hoosiers seniors will have a chance to rewrite that scene in their first trip back to West Lafayette since then.

And the contrast could not be starker.

Despite losing its last two, Indiana (7-4, 4-4 Big Ten) remains one win away from its first eight-win season since 1993, its first five-win season in league play since 1993. A win Saturday would get the Hoosiers within striking distance of matching the single-season school record for wins (nine), last achieved in 1967, and in position to keep climbing the bowl bid pecking order.

But the more immediate goal is bringing the Bucket back to Bloomington for the first time in three years.

"I can't stand not having it here in Bloomington, not seeing it in that trophy case," receiver Nick Westbrook said. "So I'm doing everything in my power to get it back here because that's where it belongs in my eyes."

Injuries have forced the Boilermakers (4-7, 3-5) to play most of this season without their starting quarterback, their top two receivers and their top two defensive players. They even lost their backup quarterback with a season-ending injury.

So coach Jeff Brohm compensated by going with a young lineup, which has produced big numbers — but not enough wins to become bowl-eligible. So instead of trying to reach their third straight bowl game under Brohm, the Boilermakers hope to salvage their season with a third consecutive Bucket win.

"It's always good to win that last game, especially when there's a lot riding on it," said Brohm, who will miss the postseason for the first time in his six seasons as a head coach. "That's what made the last two seasons very fun, it came down to win and you advance or you lose and you go home. "

Brohm is a perfect 2-0 in Bucket games. Indiana coach Tom Allen is 0-2.

And both understand what it means to get their hands on that cherished trophy.

"That's a huge priority here in our program," Allen said. "Our guys understand that. All of our new guys are growing to understand that. We'll have to play our very, very best on the road to get this very important win for our program."

FRESH START

Don't expect to see Brohm use too many more newcomers now that the Boilermakers are out of bowl contention.

Actually, he's almost out of options.

Receiver David Bell was just named Big Ten freshman of the week for the fourth time this season and running back King Doerue earned the honor once.

And while Doerue leads the Boilermakers in rushing, Bell leads the team in receptions and receiving yards, freshman defensive lineman George Karlaftis leads Purdue in sacks and tackles for loss and redshirt freshman defensive back Cory Trice leads the team in interceptions.

BY THE NUMBERS

The Hoosiers lead the Big Ten in passing offense (306.1 yards) and are second in time of possession (33:43), completions (278) and passing attempts (400).

Indiana also is tied for second-fewest sacks allowed per game (1.64) and is third in total offense (436.5) and needs one more 30-point game to match a single-season school record (nine).

And the Hoosiers are one of only two teams with five receivers who have caught 20 or more passes and posted 350 or more yards. Washington State has seven.

CAPTAIN COMEBACK

Injuries gave quarterback Aidan O'Connell a chance to make his first career start four weeks ago, and he's played well.

O'Connell engineered late comebacks against Nebraska and Northwestern to keep Purdue's slim bowl hopes alive and kept them close at No. 14 Wisconsin last weekend.

He's the third Purdue player since 2000 to produce two game-winning drives in the final two minutes during the same season, joining Drew Brees and Elijah Sindelar.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Stanford wraps up down season against No. 15 Notre Dame

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

STANFORD, Calif. — When Stanford's nine-game winning streak in the Big Game ended with a loss to California, the Cardinal's bowl hopes died as well.

For the first time since coach Jim Harbaugh's first season on The Farm in 2007, the Cardinal will play a game with no chance at making a bowl when they host No. 15 Notre Dame on Saturday.

"It's going to be a test of our character," linebacker Curtis Robinson said. "It will be real easy for anyone off the street to just quit because we don't have a bowl game or, you know what I'm saying, we're not having a great season. Anybody can do that. So I think that it's going to be a test of our character. If we come out and we show that we prepared like we would any other game, with the motivations of any other game, I think that will be a good sign for the program. And I don't expect anything less from our team."

Stanford (4-7) has been one of the country's most successful programs this decade, winning 98 games and playing in three Rose Bowls and two other BCS games. This season started with high hopes and a No. 25 ranking but a series of injuries and a pair of three-game losing streaks, the Cardinal are having their worst season in more than a decade.

They last missed a bowl in 2008 when they lost their final three games to finish 5-7 in Harbaugh's second season. They went 4-8 the previous year but even that provided optimism with an historic upset over No. 2 Southern California, a win in the Big Game and vast improvement over a one-win season the previous year.

A win over the Fighting Irish (9-2, No. 16 CFP) would provide at least some solace.

"If we just want to tap out and get ready in the offseason, try to come back next year strong, it's going to show poor character," tight end Colby Parkinson said. "But that's not what we have here. We have a group of guys that are all strong and willing to fight. And that's what we're going to do."

There's probably not a lot at stake for the Irish, either. They have only a remote chance of making a New Year's Six bowl but are still hoping to match a school record with three straight 10-win seasons.

"I'd say that's a pretty high bar," coach Brian Kelly said. "To win 10 out of 12 games each year, given the kind of schedule that we play, if you had that stock, you'd probably be pretty happy."

BOUNCING BACK

The Irish have responded well since losing 45-14 at Michigan last month. They followed that with a one-point win over Virginia Tech and then three straight victories by at least 30 points against Duke, Navy and Boston College.

"Everyone just believes in each other and never gave up," quarterback Ian Book said. "Our freshman year, to go 4-8 and have three great seasons after that, this group doesn't give up. This group never gives up, it works hard and is confident.

IMPROVING PASSER

With K.J. Costello still injured, Davis Mills will remain the starting quarterback for Stanford. Mills has played well since returning from his own injury two weeks ago. He set a school record with 504 yards passing in a loss at Washington State and then went 26 for 35 for 283 yards last week in the loss to Cal.

STOP THE RUN

Notre Dame has held the opposition to 3.5 yards a carry the past four games after being gashed on the ground by Michigan. The Irish handled Navy's option attack well and then held Boston College star back A.J. Dillon to only 56 yards.

"Our front seven has been playing fantastic," nose tackle Kurt Hinish said. "Our secondary has been playing great. They give us the time to get to the quarterback and we're able to make plays. When the ball is thrown, they make plays. Our linebackers have been fantastic."

STREAKING

Stanford's nine-game winning streak in the Big Game was stopped last week, but The Cardinal have has a couple of notable streaks on the line against Notre Dame. They have won their last five at home against Irish and have won 22 straight nonconference home games since losing to Notre Dame in 2007, including all 17 under coach David Shaw.

NFL

Cardinals' Josh Shaw suspended for betting on NFL games

NEW YORK (AP) — Arizona Cardinals cornerback Josh Shaw has been suspended indefinitely for betting on NFL games on multiple occasions this season, the first time in more than 35 years a player has been banned for gambling.

The league announced the suspension on Friday. Shaw was banned for at least the rest of the season.

According to the NFL, a league investigation found no information that Shaw used inside information or compromised any games. Shaw has not played this season.

The league also said it found no evidence that teammates, coaches or other players were aware of Shaw betting on games.

"The continued success of the NFL depends directly on each of us doing everything necessary to safeguard the integrity of the game and the reputations of all who participate in the league. At the core of this responsibility is the longstanding principle that betting on NFL games, or on any element of a game, puts at risk the integrity of the game, damages public confidence in the NFL, and is forbidden under all circumstances," Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a statement. "If you work in the NFL in any capacity, you may not bet on NFL football."

Shaw may petition for reinstatement on or after Feb. 21.

Suspensions of NFL players for betting are rare. The highest-profile case was in 1963 when Paul Hornung of the Green Bay Packers and Alex Karras of the Detroit Lions were banned for the entire season. Both were reinstated the following season and Hornung went on to make the Hall of Fame.

In the most recent case, Baltimore Colts quarterback Art Schlichter was suspended in 1983 for betting on NFL games and other sporting events. He, too, was reinstated the following year.

The 27-year-old Shaw was a fourth-round draft pick by the Cincinnati Bengals out of USC in 2015. He spent three seasons with Cincinnati and was cut at the start of last season. He played four games last year for Kansas City and four games for Tampa Bay.

KRUSCHWITZ

Continued from B1

run deeper this fall for Kruschwitz and the Squires as a whole than the loss in last season's loss in the sectional final. Riding high into the championship game unbeaten and having broken numerous school records, Manchester was served a healthy dose of humble pie as Concordia Lutheran scored twice in the opening two minutes as part of a 6-0 rout.

Add all the childhood games, the years spent as a Squire, the brief time with a club team and mixed in a little extra motivation from a sour ending a season prior and the end result was arguably the best individual season in the state.

Kruschwitz scored just shy of half of Manchester's goals on the year. Add in his 23 assists and he scored or assisted on 66 percent of the Squires' scores. He recorded 11 hat tricks on the year and scored four goals in a contest six times. He recorded a hat trick in the final four regular season games. That was the second time on the year he had a streak of four consecutive games with a hat trick.

In six conference games, he scored 18 goals and assisted 12, an average of a hat trick and two assists per contest. His goals in conference play alone would have ranked him third in the league in goals on the season.

In no game in the regular season was Kruschwitz held scoreless. Only twice did he finish with less than two goals. In each instance, he finished with a goal and an assist, accounting for both goals in a 2-1 win over Oak Hill and contributing half the goals in a 4-0 win over Rochester.

Equally as impressive, he only had three games during the regular season in which he did not notch an assist. In two of those three contests, he recorded a hat trick. Six times he had multiple assists in a game and three times he had a hat trick of assists. Against Maconaquah, Kruschwitz had his lone game with at least three goals and three assists, scoring four times on the day.

Yet as dominant as Manchester was, going unbeaten for a second-straight regular season, all eyes were on the sectional and the desire for the program's first sectional title. For Kruschwitz personally, struggles in the postseason had left him scoreless in sectional play heading into his final tournament run.

He wasted little time shedding any narrative of postseason struggles. Despite being matched up against the two-time defending state champions, albeit vastly weakened by graduation, in Fort Wayne Canterbury, Kruschwitz dazzled. He scored the final three goals of a 4-0 win for Manchester, capping off his hat trick with a long-range effort after a miscue by the keeper left the net open. That came after a gorgeous curling effort into the top corner to open his scoring and a field-length run and finish for his second.

"Honestly, all the goals I scored in sectional were pretty special because I hadn't scored in sectional my first three years in high school," he said. "The second goal I scored against Concordia into the top corner while the coach was yelling to keep me off my left, that was pretty awesome."

His performance set the stage for another sectional final, the third of his four-year career, and one last chance at lifting the trophy. A worthy Culver Academies side served the opponent on the day and what transpired was one of the most memorable soccer contests in recent memory for Manchester.

Kruschwitz started the scoring with a goal and helped give Manchester a 2-0 lead after his effort was parried away but into the path of Stout. The Eagles proved resilient and would eventually send the game into overtime at 3-3.

The highlight of the season, and his career, played out for Kruschwitz in the first extra time session. An off-balance, lofted shot from the forward caught the keeper off his line as it floated over his outstretched hand and into the back of the net, giving the Squires yet another lead.

"That was pretty special," Kruschwitz said of the goal. "I'm not sure I'll score that type of goal ever again. I have to say, I got pretty lucky. I mishit that so poorly that it just went right over the keeper's head. It was special."

The Squires would go on to capture the title, though a penalty shootout was needed in which Kruschwitz comfortably converted his attempt, serving as a perfect bookmark to a magical season.

"That was a crazy, crazy day," he said. "The penalty shootout, four of us seniors got to take the penalties and we all made ours. It was a great way to go out. I consider it the most successful season Manchester has had because we finally proved ourselves as not just a conference team but a team that can compete beyond conference with the schools around us."

For Kruschwitz, his senior season had another potentially lasting impact on his career and life. After long serving as a secondary sport, soccer became his preferred avenue forward this fall. The late change of mind means his future is unclear but he is certain soccer will be apart of it.

"It's a little late in the game but I'm trying to find somewhere to play college soccer," he said. "I think being apart of a soccer team in college would be fun. I always fit in with soccer players. It'd just be fun to apart of something higher than high school."

More than the sport itself and where he may find the most success in the future, Kruschwitz's main focus is on what makes him happy moving forward.

"(Soccer) always been a secondary thing for me," he said. "And, honestly, I think at this point it's kind of switched. It's always been more of a natural talent and I've always been able to enjoy soccer. I think when I look at it overall, I've started to enjoy soccer way more than golf and you want to do what you enjoy in life."

Campus Calendar
December 2019

4 7:30 p.m., University Bands Concert, Cordier Auditorium.

The CHET: Open Late, extended evening visit hours for prospective students, register at visit.manchester.edu.

6 4:05 p.m., Music Department Recital featuring first-year students, Wine Recital Hall, free.

7 p.m., Service of Lessons and Carols, Manchester Church of the Brethren.

8 3 p.m., Manchester Symphony Orchestra Holiday Pops Concert, Cordier Auditorium.

5 p.m., Cross Country/Track & Field Recruiting Dinner for prospective students, register at visit.manchester.edu.

10-13 Final exams (North Manchester campus)

14 Winter break, classes resume Jan.2

23 University offices closed, reopen Jan. 2

Manchester University
www.manchester.edu

How a central banker's low-rate shift showed the way for Fed

BY CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

RICHMOND, Virginia — In mid-2016, even with unemployment falling and the economy growing modestly, James Bullard, head of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, was concerned.

Months earlier, with Bullard's support, the Fed had raised rates for the first time in seven years. Panicky financial markets responded by sending stocks tumbling. The Fed delayed plans for further rate hikes. Through it all, there was still no sign of higher inflation – the supposed bogeyman that had led the Fed to raise rates in the first place.

"We were expecting inflation to pick up," Bullard acknowledged in an interview this month. "We had the idea that we should be preemptive and prevent that from happening. But a lot of those predictions didn't come true. So that made me think that we didn't have the right framework."

Bullard decided to develop a new framework, which he announced in June 2016. It was based on a notion that Bullard was among the first Fed officials to fully recognize: That the U.S. economy was stuck in a rut, with low growth and low worker productivity, and wouldn't likely spark high inflation even if unemployment kept falling.

It's a notion that members of the Fed's rate setting committee, including Chairman Jerome Powell, have come to collectively embrace. It helps explain why Powell has made clear, as recently as this week, that he sees no need to raise rates anytime soon despite an unemployment rate near a 50-year low.

Bullard's framework flew in the face of a long-standing belief among economists that as unemployment falls steadily, employers will keep raising wages and high inflation will follow. Casting aside such traditional economic models, Bullard felt that the economy could keep growing and employers could keep hiring without igniting inflation. He argued that the Fed would probably need to raise rates only once more, to a range of just 0.5 percent to 0.75 percent.

That view, highly unusual three years ago, transformed Bullard from a centrist member of the Fed's policymaking committee to one of the more dovish. ("Doves" typically worry less about inflation and more about sustaining growth and employment; "hawks" generally favor higher rates to control inflation.)

Most Fed policymakers at that time worried that the unemployment rate – 5 percent in December 2015 – was low enough that it would likely accelerate wages and inflation. They wanted to lift the Fed's benchmark short-term rate closer to its historical norms after seven years of holding it at zero. The consensus then was that a rate as high as 3.5 percent would still be "neutral": That is, it would neither support nor restrain growth.

And yet since late last year, the Fed has shifted much closer to Bullard's position. Powell has engineered three rate cuts since July, to a range of just 1.5 percent to 1.75 percent. These cuts followed four rate hikes last year.

To a large extent, the U-turn reflected worries among Fed policymakers that President Donald Trump's trade war with China was weakening the economy and that this threat would worsen over time. The rate cuts were intended to offset that drag.

But Powell has also indicated that the policy switch occurred, in part, because the Fed has abandoned or revamped models that correlated low unemployment with high inflation. Most economists agree that this correlation has largely disappeared, at least for now. Online retail and price-conscious consumers have made it harder for many companies to charge more. And with labor unions a diminished force, workers can't push for higher pay so easily.

"There was a tight connection between unemployment and inflation," Powell told Congress this month. "That is no longer the case and really hasn't been the case for some time."

Key Fed officials have also suggested that the neutral rate, which the Fed thought was as high as 3 percent late last year, could be as low as 1 percent.

"That's what Bullard was saying way before," said Kathy Bostjancic, an economist at Oxford Economics. "He was kind of a thought leader on the Fed."

Many economists foresee another rate cut in 2020. If so, that would mean borrowing costs, like mortgage rates, would likely stay low for months or even years. This would help support consumer and business spending as well as the economy. It would also mean, though, that savers would earn little return on their bank accounts and other fixed-income investments.

"We just don't live in an inflationary world anymore," said J.W. Mason, an economist and fellow at the Roosevelt Institute.

Rather, the economy is more likely to face "chronic, ongoing weak demand" from consumers, Mason said. That's why the last three recessions have bred sluggish recoveries.

Bullard's new framework has led him to a more consistent approach to monetary policy, economists say. Before 2016, he had gained a reputation as indecisive, alternating between hawkish and dovish positions, said Tim Duy, an economist at the University of Oregon and longtime Fed watcher.

Bullard had taken office in April 2008, in the early days of the Great Recession, after serving as an economist at the St. Louis Fed since 1990. He is the third-longest-serving of the 12 regional bank presidents, behind Charles Evans of the Chicago Fed and Eric Rosengren of the Boston Fed.

Back in 2012, Bullard had embraced a hawkish position and opposed Chairman Ben Bernanke's decision to launch a third round of Fed Treasury purchases to try to lower longer-term rates and spur growth. Bullard said he wanted to wait until the direction of the economy became clearer.

Yet the next year, he opposed Bernanke's timing for winding down those purchases, citing a more dovish concern about still-low inflation.

One economic consulting firm cited Bullard as one of the most market-moving Fed officials, typically second only to the chair, because he was seen as a bellwether on the committee.

"I try not to be dogmatic," Bullard said in the interview.

Unlike all 16 other Fed policymakers, Bullard doesn't forecast a long-term target for the Fed's benchmark rate. He thinks it's too hard to predict the economy that far ahead.

London police shoot suspect dead after 'terrorist' stabbings

BY JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON — A man wearing a fake explosive vest stabbed several people in London Friday in what police are treating as a terrorist attack before being tackled by members of the public and then fatally shot by officers on London Bridge, police and the city's mayor said.

The Metropolitan Police said "a number" of people were wounded but gave no information on how many or their conditions. London Mayor Sadiq Khan said some of the injured were in serious condition.

Khan said police weren't looking for anyone else, and Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that "to the best of our knowledge, the incident has been contained."

Metropolitan Police counterterrorism chief Neil Basu said the suspect appeared to be wearing a bomb vest but it turned out to be "a hoax explosive device."

Basu said officers were keeping "an open mind as to any motive."

The violence erupted two-and-a-half years after a van and knife attack in the same area killed eight people.

Police said a stabbing at a "premises" near the pedestrian and vehicle bridge, which links the city's business district with the south bank of the River Thames, was reported about 2 p.m.

Minutes later, witnesses saw a knifeman being wrestled to the ground by members of the public on the bridge before armed-response officers shot him dead.

One video posted on social media showed two men struggling on the bridge before police pulled a man in civilian clothes off a black-clad man on the ground. Gunshots followed. Another depicted a man in suit and overcoat holding a long knife that apparently had been taken from the attacker.

Other images showed police, guns drawn, pointing at a figure on the ground in the distance.

Karen Bosch, who was on a bus crossing the bridge, said she saw police "wrestling with one tall, bearded man" and then heard "gunshots, two loud pops."

She said the man "pulled his coat back which showed that he had some sort of vest underneath, whether it's a stab vest, or some sort of explosive vest, the police then really quickly moved backwards, away."

Another bus passenger, Amanda Hunter, told the BBC that the vehicle "all of a sudden stopped and there was commotion and I looked out the window and I just saw these three police officers going over to a man."

"It seemed like there was something in his hand, I'm not 100 percent sure, but then one of the police officers shot him."

Police confirmed that the man died at the scene.

The mayor praised the "breathtaking heroism of members of the public who literally ran towards danger not knowing what confronted him."

"They are the best of us," Khan said.

The prime minister also praised the bystanders, and said anyone who was involved in the attack "will be hunted down and will be brought to justice."

Cars and buses on the busy bridge were at a standstill after the shooting, with a white truck stopped diagonally across the lanes. Video footage showed police pointing guns at the truck before moving to check its container.

British Transport Police said London Bridge station, one of the city's busiest rail hubs, was closed and trains were not stopping there.

Scores of police, some armed with submachine guns, flooded the area, ushering office workers and tourists out of the area, which is packed with office buildings, banks, restaurants and bars. Staff in nearby office blocks were told to stay inside.

As police cleared the streets, staff in shops and restaurants ushered customers into storerooms and basements. Some had been through similar traumatic events: In June 2017, eight people died in a van and knife attack in the same area.

In that attack, three assailants inspired by the Islamic State group ran down people on the bridge, killing two, before stabbing several people to death in nearby Borough Market.

The 2017 fatal attack took place days before a general election. Britons are due to go to the polls again on Dec. 12.

Political leaders expressed shock and sorrow at Friday's attack. Johnson suspended his election campaigning for the day after the attack and said he would be "reviewing the matter in the course of the next few hours."

In March 2017, an attacker killed four people with a car on nearby Westminster Bridge then fatally stabbed a police officer before security forces shot and killed him in a courtyard outside Parliament.

Security officials earlier this month downgraded Britain's terrorism threat level from "severe" to "substantial," which means an attack is seen as "likely" rather than "highly likely." The assessment was made by the Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre, an independent expert body that evaluates intelligence, terrorist capability and intentions.

The U.K.'s terror threat was last listed as "substantial" in August 2014; since then it has held steady at "severe," briefly rising to "critical" in May and September 2017.

Iraqi prime minister to resign in wake of deadly protests

BY SAMYA KULLAB
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's prime minister announced Friday that he would submit his resignation to parliament, a day after more than 40 people were killed by security forces in protests and following calls by Iraq's top Shiite cleric for lawmakers to withdraw support.

The move by Adel Abdul-Mahdi, which came 13 months after he took office, triggered celebrations by anti-government protesters who have been camped out for nearly two months in Baghdad's Tahrir Square. Young men and women broke out in song and dance as news of the imminent resignation reached the square, the epicenter of the leaderless protest movement.

But in the event of an actual resignation, the road to a new government was uncertain and the possibility of political crisis hung in the air, Iraqi officials and experts warned.

In a statement, Abdul-Mahdi said he had "listened with great concern" to Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani's sermon and made his decision in response to the cleric's remarks and to "facilitate and hasten its fulfillment as soon as possible."

"I will submit to parliament an official memorandum resigning from the current prime ministry so that the parliament can review its choices," he said. Abdul-Mahdi was appointed Iraq's fifth prime minister since 2003 as a consensus candidate following months of political wrangling between rival political blocs.

If accepted when put to vote, Abdul-Mahdi's resignation would signal a return to square one in those slow-moving negotiations, Iraqi officials and experts said.

Abdul-Mahdi would be the second prime minister in an Arab country to be forced out by mass protests recently. In Lebanon, the resignation of Prime Minister Saad Hariri exactly a month earlier, on Oct. 29, led to further political gridlock and uncertainty.

Abdul-Mahdi's rise to power was the product of a provisional alliance between parliament's two main blocs – Sairoon, led by cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, and Fatah, which includes leaders associated with the paramilitary Popular Mobilization Units headed by Hadi al-Amiri.

In the May 2018 election, neither coalition won a commanding plurality, which would have enabled it to name the premier, as stipulated by the Iraqi constitution. To avoid political crisis, Sairoon and Fatah forged a precarious union with Abdul-Mahdi as their prime minister.

Now, with his resignation, unresolved disputes between the coalitions threaten to re-emerge, two Iraqi officials said.

"The two of them need to come to an agreement again for us to see a new prime minister," said a senior government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Abdul-Mahdi had alluded to this challenge implicitly in earlier statements, saying he would resign, but only if an alternative candidate was found for the premiership.

Officials also questioned Abdul-Mahdi's decision to submit his resignation via the more time-consuming route of parliament, requiring MPs to vote, rather than sending it directly to the president, who has the power to accept it immediately and demote the government to caretaker status until a new one is formed.

One Iraqi official said one of two things could happen: "There's going to be a lot of horse-trading going on, or it could be paralysis, and nothing changes."

The resignation also creates legal uncertainties as the constitution does not provide clear procedures to guide lawmakers in the event of a premier stepping down, experts said. The key issue was how long Abdul-Mahdi's government could maintain caretaker status in the event of protracted political negotiations.

"To my understanding there is no clause (in the constitution) that says how long he can remain in the post once his resignation is accepted," said Sajad Jiyad, the managing director of Bayan Center, an Iraq-based think tank.

Family of slain journalist presses Malta's PM to resign

VALLETTA, Malta (AP) — The family of a journalist who was killed by a car bomb in Malta is urging Maltese Prime Minister Joseph Muscat to resign, after his former chief aide was released from jail in a probe aimed at finding the mastermind of the 2017 murder.

Muscat said Friday that police found no grounds to hold Keith Schembri, his former chief of staff in custody. The family of the slain journalist, Daphne Caruana Galizia, said in a tweet that "we share Malta's shock and anger" that the ex-aide was released from jail a day earlier.

"This travesty of justice is shaming our country, ripping our society apart, and it is degrading us," one of Daphne's sons, Paul Caruana Galizia, said in a tweet. "It cannot continue any longer."

"We urge the prime minister to step aside and let an unconflicted deputy take over. If the prime minister has the interests of justice and Malta at heart, then he should do so immediately."

Maltese media were reporting that Muscat's resignation could be imminent.

Thousands of Maltese on the Mediterranean island nation of some 400,000 people have been turning out nightly outside Muscat's office calling on the prime minister to step down.

Muscat's office denied Maltese media reports claiming that the prime minister's Cabinet had lost faith in him, describing them "as total invention."

The prime minister "will remain focused on the priority of the country to close one of the biggest criminal cases in history,'' his office said in a statement.

Schembri, who resigned his post when questioned earlier in the week, has denied any wrongdoing related to the death of Daphne Caruana Galizia, who was killed as the car she was driving near her home blew up.

She had written extensively about suspected corruption in political and business circles in the EU nation.

Three men have been arrested for carrying out the bombing. No trial date has been set.

Last week, police took into custody a Maltese hotelier as he tried to flee Malta on his yacht. The jailed businessman, Yorgen Fenech, provided information about Schembri, reportedly in a bid to win immunity.

But Muscat told reporters early Friday that the police commissioner and the attorney general recommended that "there is not sufficient reason to grant a presidential pardon."

Muscat did not give details about why police came to that conclusion.

"The police commissioner and the attorney general's detailed recommendation is that there is not sufficient reason to grant a presidential pardon to Yorgen Fenech," Muscat said. He added that his Cabinet unanimously agreed with that recommendation.

The lack of information frustrated the slain reporter's family.

Fenech "does not need a presidential pardon for the police to charge Schembri," the family said in the tweet.

In an unrelated case which added to Muscat's woes, a Maltese court on Friday ruled that Finance Minister Edward Scicluna be investigated for a deal in which the government privatized three public hospitals.

The court also ruled investigations were in order in the hospital transfer deal of two politicians who resigned ministry posts earlier this week. Chris Cardona and Konrad Mizzi had resigned from their Cabinet positions, in connection with the car bomb probe. New reports have linked the two men to the murder investigation. Cardona and Mizzi have denied wrongdoing in connection with the bombing.

Iran protests point to turmoil in the future

BY JON GAMBRELL
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Even among hardliners in Iran, there seems to be an acknowledgment of one fact after widespread protests, violence and a security force crackdown following a spike in government-set gasoline prices: This will not be the last time demonstrators come out on the street.

As Iran struggles under crushing U.S. sanctions following President Donald Trump's unilateral withdrawal of America from Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers, its elected civilian government and those in its Shiite theocracy will face ever-tougher decisions on where to cut costs.

Those cuts will more than likely target its vast system of government subsidies that make life affordable for its poor, from low-cost electricity in their homes to the bread on their plates. Any move to increase those prices will draw further protests. But the government may not have any other option.

The protests that struck some 100 cities and towns across Iran beginning Nov. 15 came after Iran raised minimum gasoline prices by 50 percent to 15,000 rials per liter. That's 12 cents a liter, or about 50 cents a gallon. After a monthly 60-liter quota, it costs 30,000 rials a liter. That's nearly 24 cents a liter or 90 cents a gallon. An average gallon of regular gas in the U.S. costs $2.58 by comparison, according to AAA.

Cheap gasoline is practically considered a birthright in Iran, home to the world's fourth-largest crude oil reserves despite decades of economic woes since its 1979 Islamic Revolution. Gasoline there remains among the cheapest in the world, in part to help keep costs low for its underemployed, who often drive taxis to make ends meet.

Iran's per-capita gross domestic product, often used as a rough sense of a nation's standard of living, is just over $6,000, compared to over $62,000 in the U.S., according to the World Bank. That disparity, especially given Iran's oil wealth, fueled the anger felt by demonstrators.

Iran's government, however, likely saw little choice in trying to push through changes to its gasoline subsidies. Iran spent $26.6 billion on oil subsidies in 2018, according to the Paris-based International Energy Agency, the most of any country in the world. Iran spent 15 percent of its overall GDP, or $69.2 billion, that year on oil, electricity and natural gas subsidies.

Keeping gas costs low also benefits the wealthy, as well as those who smuggle Iranian fuel into other countries.

U.S. sanctions, re-imposed by Trump, largely have stopped Iran from selling its crude oil abroad, cutting into a crucial source of government income. While Iranian President Hassan Rouhani pledged the money saved from cutting gasoline subsidies would go to the poor, Tehran also needs to cut back spending in order to weather the sanctions.

Already, Iranians have seen their savings chewed away by the rial's collapse from 32,000 to $1 at the time of the 2015 atomic accord to 126,000 to $1 today. Daily staples also have risen in price.

Even with the hike in gasoline prices, Iran still subsidizes fuel costs. Its economy remains largely state-planned despite privatization efforts. Among other major subsidies are bread and wheat, diesel fuel, heating oil and electricity.

Iran's minister of industry and trade, Reza Rahmani, pledged Tuesday that prices will not be increased through the end of the current Iranian year on March 21. However, the gasoline prices came suddenly and without warning overnight, signaling further cuts likely would follow the same way in order to try and control the outcry.

The scale of the gasoline price demonstrations remains unclear even today as Iran so far has not offered nationwide statistics for the number of people arrested, injured or killed in the protests. Amnesty International believes the protests and the security crackdown killed at least 161 people.

One Iranian lawmaker said he thought that over 7,000 people had been arrested, while the country's interior minister said as many as 200,000 people took part in the demonstrations.

While demonstrators attacked gas stations, the target of choice appeared to be banks. Protesters attacked over 700 banks, smashing ATMs and setting some ablaze, Interior Minister Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli said. That anger doesn't come as a surprise. In recent years, banks burdened by bad debts or circled by corruption allegations have collapsed in Iran, sparking sporadic protests by depositors who lost their money. Some of those banks had ties to powerful people within Iran, leading to allegations of cronyism.

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called those who attacked the banks "thugs" in his first comments on the demonstrations. His website published a cartoon showing masked rioters attacking a bank, while another frame showed a family and an elderly man with a cane peacefully waiting to withdraw money from an ATM.

"Setting fire to such and such bank is not the action of the people, it is the action of thugs," Khamenei said, according to his website. "These acts of sabotage do not solve any problem. In fact, they add insecurity to the problems that exist."

However, bank attacks were widespread in 1978 in the months ahead of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's abandoning the throne and the Islamic Revolution. Marxists who hated capitalism, Islamists who opposed usury rates and others taking advantage of the chaos ransacked hundreds of banks, angry over corruption. The Iranian economy nosedived as money flooded out of the country.

The revolution saw millions on the street, something not seen in these recent protests. However, these demonstrations turned violent in the span of a day, showing the danger looming ahead for Iran's government as it likely faces further hard choices ahead as sanctions look unlikely to be lifted as it has begun breaking centrifuges, enrichment and stockpile limitations in the nuclear deal.

"These riots are not the last ones and it definitely will happen in the future," Revolutionary Guard acting commander Gen. Ali Fadavi has warned.

Global climate protests ahead of Madrid meeting

BY FRANK JORDANS
Associated Press

BERLIN — Protesters in cities across the world staged rallies Friday demanding leaders take tougher action against climate change, days before the latest global conference, which this year takes place in Madrid.

The rallies kicked off in Australia, where people affected by recent devastating wildfires joined young environmentalists protesting against the government's pro-coal stance.

Janet Reynolds said she had come to the rally in Sydney after losing everything in an "inferno, an absolute firestorm that raced through my property."

"It's so unnatural that I started investigating, reading science and really exploring what's happening with climate change," she told Australian television.

Student Daisy Jeffrey said protesters had come to help raise money for those affected by the fires and to demand action from the government

"People have lost their homes, people have lost their lives. We have to ask: How far does this have to go before our government finally takes action," she said.

Teenage activist Greta Thunberg, who is traveling across the Atlantic by sailboat to attend the climate talks, sent a message of support to protesters. "Everyone's needed. Everyone's welcome. Join us," she said on Twitter.

Since starting her one-woman "climate strikes" in Sweden more than a year ago, Thunberg has drawn a huge following around the world and inspired thousands more students to regularly skip school on Fridays and join climate protests.

Further rallies took place in Germany, Hungary, Belgium, South Korea, Poland, England, Turkey, Italy, Spain and France – where environmental protesters took a swipe at Black Friday.

In Berlin, about two dozen environmental activists jumped into the chilly waters of the Spree river in front of parliament to protest a government-backed package of measures they say won't be enough to reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions. The package was blocked Friday by Germany's upper house, which represents the country's 16 states.

Later, tens of thousands of students rallied in front of the Brandenburg Gate.

"The generations before us messed it up," said 17-year-old Robin Ebelt. "And we're the ones that will feel the consequences. I would like to spend another 60 years on this planet, grow old and have grandchildren."

Quang Paasch of the activist group Fridays for Future said governments attending next week's annual climate conference should keep in mind the goals of the 2015 Paris accord, which set a target of keeping global warming well below 2 degrees Celsius. "We need to keep taking to the streets, we need to defend Paris."

Thousands of demonstrators also marched in Skopje, the capital city of North Macedonia, protesting high levels of air pollution, among the worst in Europe.

Organizers blamed the government for the weak implementation of safety standards that has led to some 3,500 deaths annually due to the exposure to harmful chemicals in the environment, according to United Nations health data.

In South Africa, a few dozen people holdings signs saying "Not Cool" and "Stop Pollution Now" protested outside the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in the summer heat of the Southern Hemisphere.

One protester lay on the ground faking death, holding a sign saying "Black Friday Reason to Grieve."

Africa contributes least to climate change and is the least prepared to deal with it. Temperatures in parts of the continent are projected to rise more quickly than the global average.

"The reality is that we have a climate change emergency," protest organizer Elana Azrai said. She noted water shortages in parts of the country amid a drought in southern Africa.

Elsewhere, officials have raised the alarm over unusually severe rainfall in East Africa and a pair of cyclones that ripped into Mozambique within weeks of each other early this year.

Scores of young Nigerians marched in downtown Lagos displaying messages such as "There is no planet B" and "Stop Denying the Earth is Dying" as passing vehicles slowed and honked in support.

"Mother nature is lamenting and we are grieved," declared one of the Lagos marchers, Omobolanle Eko. "The rise in temperature is real. The rise in sea level is real."

Student Folashade Gbadeola listed several possible solutions, some of them challenging, in Nigeria, whose economy is still deeply dependent on oil production.

"We should stop the use of fossil fuel," Gbadeola said.

And in a city of some 20 million people and epic traffic jams, the student suggested that people live near their place of work, ride bikes and share car rides.

The megacity is Africa's most populous and is among its coastal cities threatened by rising sea levels.

Hong Kong protesters seek British support; campus siege ends

BY KEN MORITSUGU and EILEEN NG
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Hundreds of Hong Kong pro-democracy activists rallied Friday outside the British Consulate, urging the city's former colonial ruler to emulate the U.S. and take concrete actions to support their cause, as police ended a blockade of a university campus after 12 days.

Waving British flags, the activists urged Britain to ensure that Hong Kong political dissidents do not suffer the same fate as Simon Cheng, a former British Consulate employee in the city who says he was detained and tortured by Chinese secret police.

The rally came a day after U.S. President Donald Trump signed into law two bills to support democracy and human rights in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory.

"The U.K. should enforce similar laws and should have done even more" to support the protest movement, said a masked rally organizer who identified herself only as Dawn. Activists handed a petition to a British Consulate official before leaving.

Beijing denies torturing Cheng and says he was held for soliciting prostitution during a business trip to mainland China in August. Cheng says he agreed to confess to avoid harsher charges. He says he was hooded, beaten and chained to a metal frame as Chinese secret police sought information on activists involved in the protests and on Britain's purported role.

Cheng has left the consulate and is in hiding.

Violence in Asia's top financial hub has abated since a stunning victory by the pro-democracy camp in Nov. 24 local elections, seen as a sharp rebuke to the city's embattled leader, Carrie Lam.

Protesters are planning more rallies this weekend to keep up their pressure on Lam, who has refused to offer any new concessions to their demands, including greater democracy and an independent probe into alleged police brutality.

At a lunchtime rally Friday, hundreds of people chanted slogans and carried posters telling Lam that "it's time to step down." Protesters disrupted traffic in at least two places but dispersed after police issued warnings.

On Thursday night, thousands joined a large rally to thank America, on its Thanksgiving Day holiday, and to call on other countries to join the U.S. in supporting the protest movement, now in its sixth month.

One of the new U.S. laws prescribes sanctions on officials found guilty of human rights abuses and requires an annual review of a special trade status for Hong Kong. The other bans the export of certain nonlethal munitions to Hong Kong police.

China has warned of strong countermeasures and Hong Kong's government has slammed the U.S. move as unwarranted meddling in its affairs.

During an official visit to Thailand, Carrie Lam said Hong Kong's fundamentals, including its "one country, two systems" framework, remain strong despite the unrest.

"I and my government are listening to our people with a view to resolving some deep-seated problems in Hong Kong through dialogue," she said, adding that "Hong Kong can bounce back."

Earlier Friday, police lifted their siege of Polytechnic University, a key earlier battleground with pitched battles between protesters and riot officers.

Black Friday frenzy goes global – and not everyone's happy

BY ANGELA CHARLTON and CLAIRE PARKER
Associated Press

PARIS — People don't celebrate Thanksgiving in France, or Russia, or South Africa – but they do shop on Black Friday.

The U.S. sales phenomenon has spread to retailers across the world in recent years with such force that it's prompting a backlash from some activists, politicians and even consumers.

Workers at Amazon in Germany went on strike for better pay on one of the busiest days of the year. Near Paris, climate demonstrators blocked one of the retail giant's warehouses to protest over-production they say is killing the planet. Some French lawmakers want to ban Black Friday altogether.

Consumer rights groups in Britain and some other countries say retailers use Black Friday as a slogan to lure in shoppers, but it's not always clear how real or big the discounts are. Other critics say it hurts small businesses.

Globalized commerce has brought U.S. consumer tastes to shoppers around the world, from Halloween candy to breakfast cereal and peanut butter, sometimes even supplanting local traditions.

To French activists, Black Friday is the epitome of this shift, a purely commercial event designed to boost U.S. retailers ahead of the Christmas holidays, the symbol of capitalism run amok.

"The planet burns, oceans die, and we still want to consume, consume, and therefore produce, produce – until we eradicate all living things? ... We will not betray our children for a 30 percent discount!" reads a manifesto by groups holding "Block Friday" protests around Paris.

In Britain, where the big winter sales have traditionally been held on the day after Christmas, companies have been adopting Black Friday marketing campaigns since about 2010. After a rise in business on the day in the first years, the volume of shopping has leveled off, with most of it happening online over multiple days.

Research by a U.K. consumer association found that 61 percent of goods advertised in Black Friday deals last year were cheaper or about the same price both before and after the event.

That echoes similar warnings in other countries. Russia's consumer watchdog issued a long statement with tips on how to avoid getting fooled, like checking whether prices were raised before Friday to make deals look good or whether delivery costs are inflated.

The Black Friday advertising push has extended beyond the one day to Cyber Monday, with retailers in several countries spreading them across what's often called "Black Week."

In the Czech Republic, one electronics chain encourages shoppers – in English, of course – to "Make Black Friday Great Again," in an ad featuring a suited man wearing the distinctive red cap used by U.S. President Donald Trump's election campaign.

While the phenomenon is less widespread in Asia, some major companies like Japan Airlines use it as a slogan.

Broadcasters in South Africa showed people waiting in line to shop in one of the world's most socially and economically unequal nations. The respected weekly Mail & Guardian newspaper decried in a scathing editorial how Black Friday is used to enrich big retailers.

"Like no other day, this Friday shows how broken the world we have built is," it said.

Among other concerns is that Black Friday could hurt small businesses that do not have the vast marketing budgets and online sales presence of big retail chains or multinationals.

In Italy, for example, Black Friday falls outside the season's strictly defined schedule for when the winter shop sales can be held. This year, sales cannot be held from Dec. 5 until Jan. 4, when stores are allowed to clear out stock. The fashion industry has warned that can hurt smaller retailers in a country that relies on them heavily.

A French legislative committee passed an amendment Monday that proposes prohibiting Black Friday because it causes "resource waste" and "overconsumption." France's e-commerce union, whose members are aggressively marketing Black Friday sales throughout November, has condemned the measure.

Dozens of French activists blocked the Amazon warehouse in Bretigny-sur Orge on Thursday, spreading hay and old refrigerators and microwaves on the driveway. They held signs in front of the warehouse gates reading "Amazon: For the climate, for jobs, stop expansion, stop overproduction!"

The activists were later dislodged by police.

For hopeful mom-to-be, timing will be everything

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I recently celebrated our first anniversary and have decided we're ready to start a family. Our first month of trying has not been successful. My newly engaged cousin has just announced her wedding date. If our second month of trying is successful, my due date will fall just two days prior to their wedding.

Dear Abby

I'm extremely close with my family, especially this particular cousin because we are so close in age. The thought of missing out on such a special day for them makes me upset. Plus, if I should go into labor the day of the wedding, not only would my husband and I be unable to attend but neither would my parents or sister because they would want to be by my side. That seems unfair to my cousin. Although I know she would understand, I would feel guilty.

When I brought up the idea of taking the month off from trying so the dates don't overlap, I knew my husband would be upset. But he wasn't just upset, he was furious! He told me I was being completely unreasonable and that it was the most absurd thing he's ever heard. (Mind you, he can be a little dramatic when he's upset.)

All I want to do is start trying again the next month so I would be due the month after the wedding. I never said I didn't want a baby, just that I want the opportunity to share in the joy of my cousin's big day. Am I being insensitive? – Timing It Right In Pennsylvania

DEAR TIMING: I don't think you are being insensitive. I do think you are overthinking this. Most people do not conceive on their first try. Sometimes it takes several tries – or more. Pregnant women do not always deliver on schedule. So PLEASE, rather than worry about your cousin's wedding, let things progress in their own time. If you do, you will have less drama in your life to contend with.

DEAR ABBY: My husband passed away in early 2014. I haven't been able to get rid of or give away any of his stuff. He was a successful structural engineer with licenses in 12 states. He liked to go hiking every weekend "to clear his head." He has a collection of souvenir small metal buildings and ashtrays of civil or structural significance.

Abby, I'm just not sure how to start to move on. Granted, I'm no spring chicken – I just turned 70 – but it would be sweet to find another partner. To do that, I know I've got to lose the stuff. Maybe writing to you is helping me to sort it out. I would appreciate knowing your thoughts on the subject. – Sorting Things Out In Florida

DEAR SORTING THINGS OUT: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your husband. No one can dictate when a widow or widower should start donating their deceased spouse's belongings. Grieving is an individual process, and the timing isn't the same for everyone. This project doesn't have to be done all at once.

Now that you are ready, contact a thrift store and ask what items they would welcome. The collection of souvenirs may or may not be valuable. An appraiser could help you to determine that. If your husband belonged to any organizations affiliated with his career, contact them to see if any of the members would be interested in acquiring it.

As to finding another partner, the solution is to make it your business to mingle, be social and scope out dating sites for seniors. If you need help, have a single friend or relative help you put together a profile and show you the ropes so you can do it safely.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Moon or sun
4 Shaker filler
8 Buffalo Bill —
12 Torme or Gibson
13 Muse of history
14 Unit of land
15 Ms. Gabor
16 Mighty Dog rival
17 Pronto
18 Landed folks
20 Japanese mat
22 Aluminum company
23 Food additive
24 Miserable
28 Trireme mover
31 Okra morsels
34 Fossey friend
35 Phillips University town
36 Help a malefactor
37 Get — of that junk!
38 Doctrines
39 Sharp turn
40 Go higher
42 Gray-clad soldier
44 Hawk's refuge
48 Thin
51 Cookwear
52 Do dock work
53 Trickle down
55 Blurbs
56 Novelist — Waugh
57 Junction point
58 Narrow inlet
59 Pith
60 Floored
61 Utter

DOWN
1 Rolex rival
2 Make merry
3 Alps' Mont —
4 Pharaoh's amulet
5 Friend
6 Cup edge
7 Hit the horn
8 Throws out
9 Stop signs
10 Tot of whiskey
11 Sasquatch cousin
19 Brown bread
21 Invoice no.
25 Grates
26 Cast-of-thousands movie
27 Yield by treaty
29 Goal
30 Hwys.
31 La —, Bolivia
32 Kyoto sash
33 Lowers in esteem
35 Pillow filler
40 Tummy muscles
41 Dozed off
43 Vertical
45 Jungle warnings
46 Guru's domain
47 Long answer exam
48 Foundry refuse
49 Sanskrit dialect
50 Ferber or Millay
51 Staffer
54 Ticket info

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	A	G	E			H	A	M		P	A	H
A	R	E	A	S		E	P	A		I	C	Y
D	I	N	G	Y		L	O	C	A	T	E	D
			E	D	A	M		A	B	A	S	E
	M	O	R	N	S		S	O	L			
D	I	M		E	T	T	A		E	A	S	E
A	L	E		Y	A	R	N		R	U	E	S
L	A	N	E		I	O	T	A		D	I	P
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L	O	R	E	L	E	I		A	T	L	A	S
A	S	A		L	C	D		K	E	A	N	U
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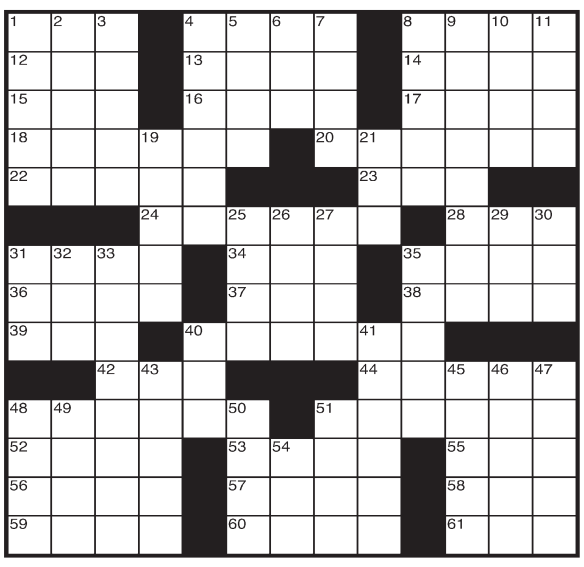

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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

2	8			3				
				4	7	1		
	7	4		6				8
		8	7	9				
4				5				6
				8	1	4		
8				1		7	5	
		7	4	2				
				7			1	3

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

3	1	5	7	8	9	6	4	2
7	9	4	1	2	6	3	5	8
2	8	6	4	3	5	1	9	7
1	6	2	3	5	7	9	8	4
5	7	3	8	9	4	2	1	6
9	4	8	2	6	1	7	3	5
8	5	1	6	7	3	4	2	9
4	2	7	9	1	8	5	6	3
6	3	9	5	4	2	8	7	1

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YORFE

DEBIA

GITAMS

FISYHT

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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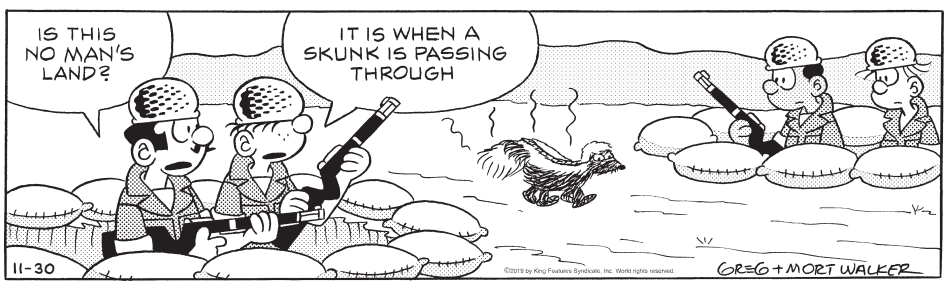
(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: OZONE ALIBI DIVERT HUBCAP
Answer: Howard Hughes built the "Spruce Goose" out of wood and was able to — BOARD THE PLANE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

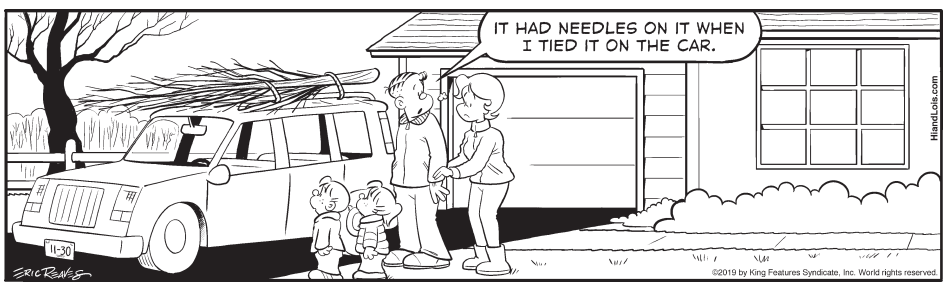
"Daddy bear said, 'Who ate my porridge?' And the baby bear said,'NOT ME!'"

BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE

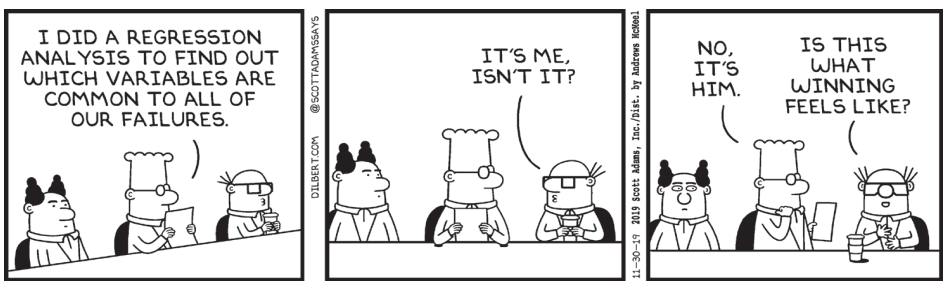
HI & LOIS



BC

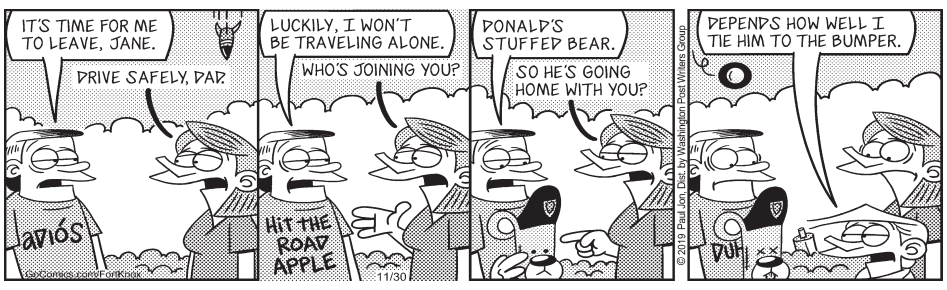
WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

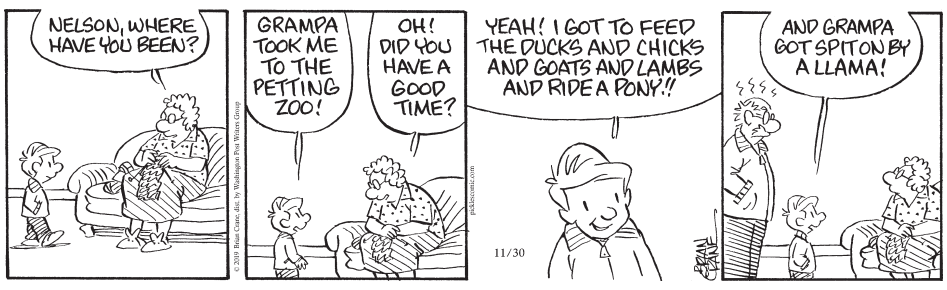


GARFIELD

FORT KNOX



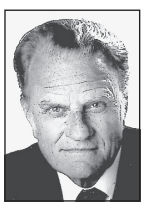
PICKLES



God in Heaven deals with each of us individually

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Billy Graham
My Answer



Q: I have a business associate who wears his religion on his sleeve, always boasting of all that he does for the community. He may be active in church on Sunday, but he cheats his customers the rest of the week. This makes me doubt his sincerity and he has turned me off on Christianity. – D.R.

A: An FBI agent was once asked how the agency spots counterfeit money. His answer was surprising and inspiring. He said, "We only study the real thing!" He went on to say, "We become so focused on each authentic mark that we can spot a counterfeit instantly."

Customers may pay for something with a $10 bill which proves to be a counterfeit, but just because this may happen on occasion does not cause the merchant to stop doing business with everyone.

God in Heaven deals with each of us individually. When we see someone being dishonest, we should pray for them. When we see someone who calls themselves a Christian but fails to live according to God's Word, there is nothing wrong with expressing disappointment. But before we do, we should stop and evaluate our life and ask if there is something we need to get right with God. When someone faults "faith in God" because of one person, it calls into question whether or not they are just looking for a reason to turn their back on God altogether.

If someone is truly a believer and falls into sin by how they treat others, a gentle word may cause the person to recognize the merit and rightness of the "Christian way" and repent and make restitution. The Bible story of Zacchaeus is a wonderful story to read (Luke 19). Christ alone changes the hearts of people.

CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"S O V B E R Y X U T A U U R L V H V F R Z
E R Y A Z R S V A X R W V I Z T U O E T B L
P I T M P B T U P R B , U O V S O R F V S R A F L
R Z V B X Y Z U R E R Y." — X Y X T B
X T A T B L R B

Previous Solution: "You can create a great legacy, and inspire others, by giving to philanthropic organizations." — Michael Bloomberg

TODAY'S CLUE: V equals H

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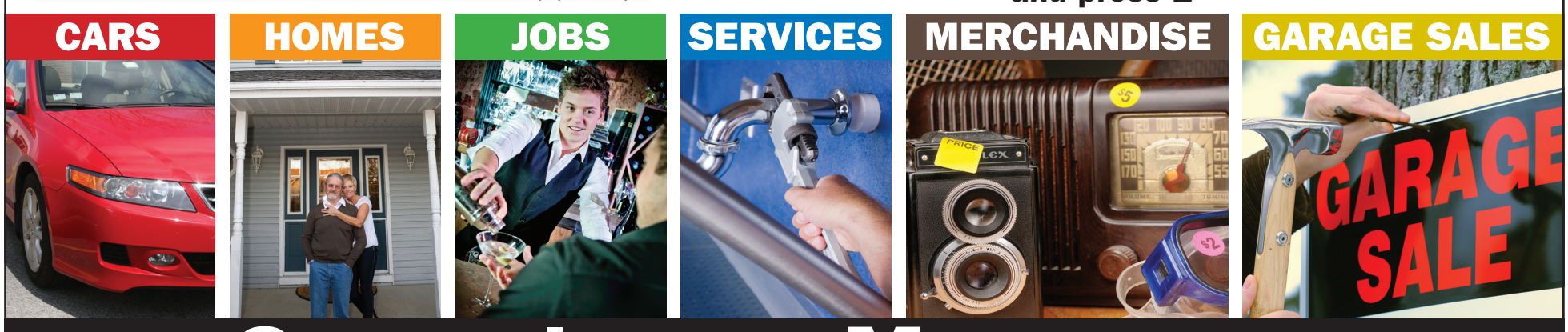

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Cabinet, Nice
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Brand New Dog
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Books 3/$1, Toys,
Clothes $10/bag,
Exercise Equipment
Used Dishwasher
All proceeds go to
the Humane Society

EMPLOYMENT

Administrative

Grant County Gov. will be accepting applications for the Executive Administrative Assistant to the Grant County Commissioners through noon on Fri., Dec. 13, 2019. Responsibilities consist of day-to-day operations of the Commissioners' Office. Requirements include: previous admin knowledge and HS diploma or equivalent. Applications and job description can be found at www.grantcounty.net All applications must be turned into Grant County HR (jsaathoff@grantcounty.net) by the above deadline.

The City of Marion will be accepting applications through Friday, December 6th, 2019 for the following position: Citywide Maintenance is seeking applicants for a full-time laborer position in the Street Department.

Job responsibilities: Under general supervision, operates trucks and light equipment for construction, maintenance and repair of roads and city property.

Qualifications: Any combination of education, training and experience which provides the necessary skills, knowledge and abilities to perform the work of this position; must possess valid Commercial Driver's License (or ability to obtain one within six (6) months).

To apply:
Mail application (available at City Hall in the Controller's Office or on our website at www.cityofmarion.in.gov) to City of Marion, Attn: Human Resources, 301 S. Branson St., Marion, IN 46952.

General Help

FRANKFORT HELP WANTED
PART-TIME
NIGHT JANITORIAL
POSITION
HOURS CAN VARY
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APPLICATION AT
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FRANKFORT, IN
OR SEND
RESUME TO
foe976@yahoo.com

Classifieds Make A Cash Connection!

Marion Fire Department will be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter starting 11/27/19 and ending 1/16/20. Applications, minimum requirements and job description can be obtained at Fire HQ, 301 S. Branson St. 3rd floor, Marion Monday through Friday 8 AM – 4 PM. Applications must be returned by 1/16/20 4:00PM. (765) 668-4474

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Lafayette, IN

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Employment Information

Marion, IN. Grant County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for the 2019 Merit Eligibility List Completed applications must be received by 4:00pm Dec. 20, 2019 Info and application available at www.grantcounty.net & Sheriff's Office, 214 E. 4th St. Marion IN Contact: ebeaty@grantcounty.net

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FARM

MERCHANDISE

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MARION
Elizabeth
Sloderbeck Estate & Others Auction, Sat. Dec. 7 – 10:00 am
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2 BR 316 E 6th St
$135/wk; tenant
pays electric

2 BR 605 W 3rd St
$140/wk; basic
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2 BR 509 E
Bradford St
$165-175/wk; basic
utilities included

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Bradford St
$190/wk; basic
utilities included

3 BR 311 E
Sherman St
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2 BR 1740 W 10th
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pays utilities

2 BR 2314 S Adams
St; $500/mo; tenant
pays utilities

2 BR 124 North E St
$500/mo; tenant
pays utilities

3 BR 616 N
Washington St
$600/mo; tenant
pays utilities

3 BR 1305 S Boots
St; $600/mo; tenant
pays utilities

3 BR 1112 E
Bradford St
$500/mo; tenant
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3 BR 1723 W 4th St
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JONESBORO
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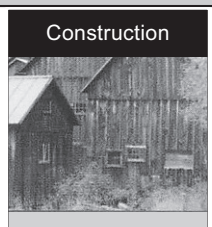

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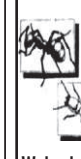

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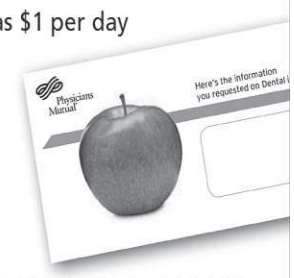

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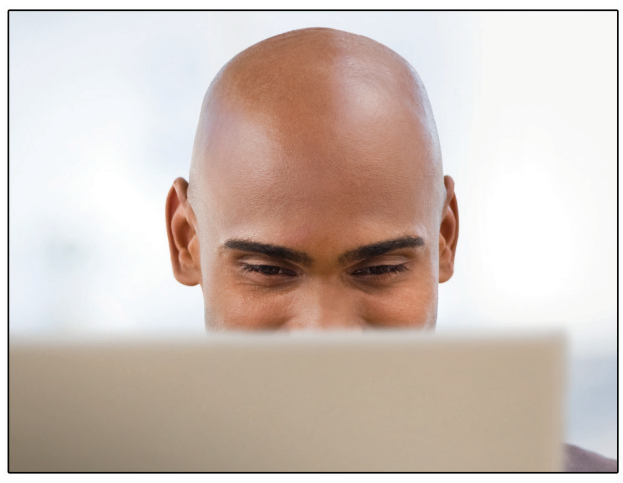

3/4 of all U.S. adults

have read a newspaper in print or online in the past week. Those 170 million adults do more than read, they are actively engaged with the advertising in it. If you want both reach and engagement, you want newspapers today.

41% say newspapers are the medium used most to check out ads, more than all electronic media (TV, radio, Internet) combined.

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39% followed up a newspaper ad online in some way. 33% went to a website after seeing a print newspaper ad and 21% conducted an online search.

36% who said they had not read a newspaper in the past week, USED a newspaper during that same week. Usage included: 19% checking sales in local stores, 15% clipping a coupon, 14% checking the weather and 10% checking movie listings.

82% used a preprinted insert in the past 30 days. Adults keep inserts 4.4 days. 59% used inserts to compare prices, 55% used to compare one circular to another, 52% saved until visiting the store and 43% used to make an unplanned purchase.

80% of U.S. adults report looking at advertising when reading the paper.

Scarborough Research 2008 - How America Shops and Spends/ MORI Research 2009

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